



ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE

HEALTH,

OF THE

COUNTY BOROUGH OF STOCKPORT,

FOR THE YEAR, 1908.

BY

HERBERT E. CORBIN,

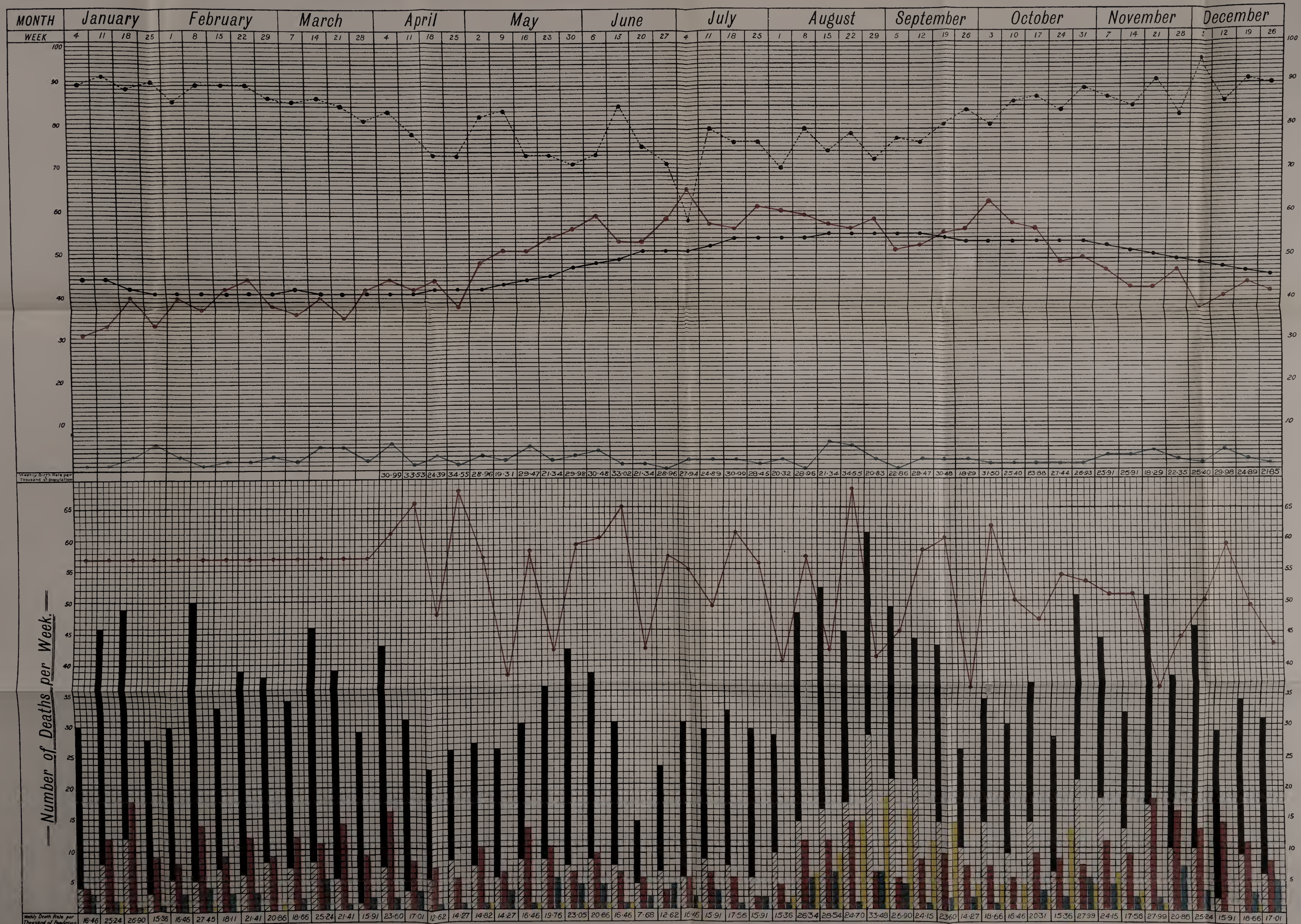
B.Sc., D.P.H., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

Medical Superintendent, Corporation Hospitals.

Medical Officer, Education Committee.

County Borough of Stockport - 1908



DOTTED BLACK CURVE = mean weekly percentage humidity of atmosphere (100 = Saturation).

RED CURVE = mean weekly temperature of the air.

BLACK CURVE = mean weekly temperature of the earth at a depth of 4 feet.

BLUE CURVE = weekly deaths from Phthisis.

Birth Rate for Year = 27.94.

LOWER RED CURVE = number of Births per week.

Average Death Rate for year 19.99 per thousand

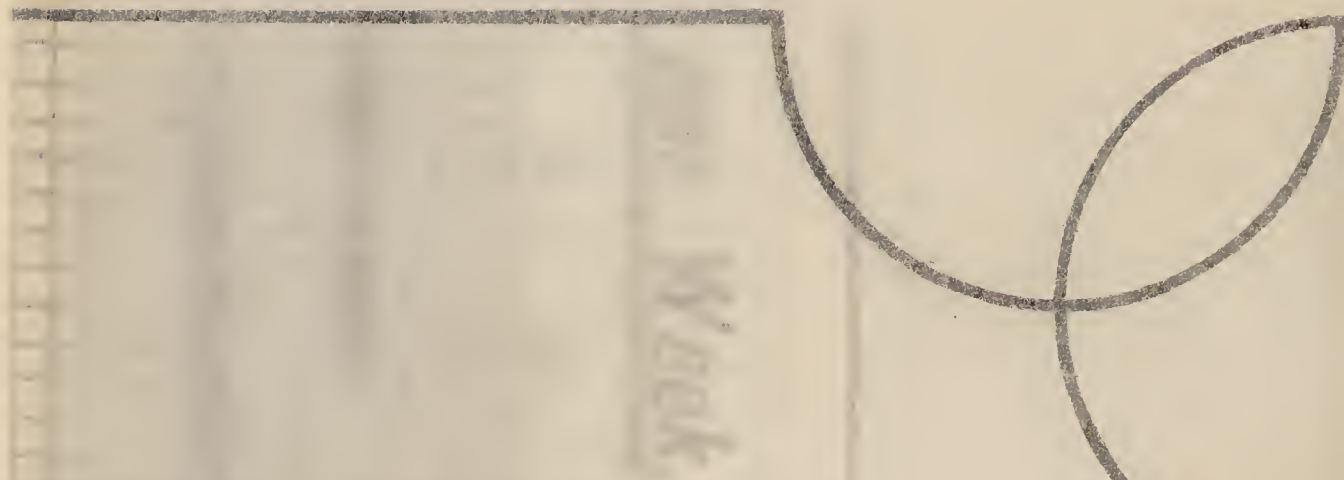
WEEKLY RECORD OF BIRTHS & DEATHS.

— Total Deaths from all causes.

— Deaths of Children under 1 year.

— DEATHS from RESPIRATORY DISEASES.

— DEATHS from ZYMOTIC DISEASES (Excluding Diarrhoea).



MONTH				JANUARY			
WEEK				4	11	18	5
100							
90							
80							
70							
60							
50							
40							
30							
20							
10							
0							

YEAR 1908.

EXTRACT FROM THE ORDER TO THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT
BOARD, 23RD MARCH, 1891.

RELATING TO THE DUTIES OF MEDICAL OFFICERS
OF HEALTH.

(14) He shall also make an annual report to the Sanitary Authority up to the end of December in each year, comprising a summary of the action taken, or which he has advised the Sanitary Authority to take, during the year for preventing the spread of disease, and an account of the sanitary state of his district generally at the end of the year. The report shall also contain an account of the inquiries which he has made as to the conditions injurious to health existing in the district, and of the proceedings in which he has taken part or advised under any statute, so far as such proceedings relate to those conditions; and also an account of the supervision exercised by him, or on his advice, for sanitary purposes over places and houses that the Sanitary Authority have power to regulate with the nature and result of any proceedings, which may have been so required and taken in respect of the same during the year. The report shall also record the action taken by him, or on his advice, during the year, in regard to offensive trades, to dairies, cow-sheds, and milk shops, and to factories and workshops. The report shall also contain tabular statements (on forms to be supplied by us, or to the like effect) of the sickness and mortality within the district, classified according to diseases, ages, and localities.

HEALTH COMMITTEE.

Chairman—ALDERMAN HENRY GEORGE SMEETH, M.D.

Vice-Chairman—ALDERMAN HENRY GREEN.

THE MAYOR

(Alderman Henry Bell, J.P., D.L.)

COUNCILLORS ALLCOCK, BAILEY, BARNETT, BREWSTER, R. JOHNSON,
NICHOLSON, NODEN, PEERS, STOCKTON, AND WALMSLEY.

MONDAY—FIXED MEETINGS.

January	13	..	April	6	..	June	29	..	September	21
„	27	..	„	20	..	July	13	..	October	5
February	10	..	May	4	..	„	27	..	„	19
„	24	..	„	18	..	August	10	..	November	16
March	9	..	June	1	..	„	24	..	„	30
„	23	..	„	15	..	September	7	..	December	14

AT 3-30 P.M.



HOSPITAL SUB-COMMITTEE, 1908.

Chairman—ALDERMAN HENRY GEORGE SMEETH, M.D.

COUNCILLORS ALLCOCK, BAILEY, BARNETT, BREWSTER, PEERS, AND
WALMSLEY.

MEETINGS—4 P.M., SECOND WEDNESDAY IN EACH MONTH.

SANITARY STAFF.

Food Inspector	W. BUTLER*.
Factory and Workshop Inspector	C. R. BILLINGHAM.
Drainage and Plumbing Inspector	J. ASHTON*.
Female Sanitary Inspectors	{ MRS. M. E. FORSTER.* MISS K. M. JONES.*
District Inspectors.....	{R. G. CHILD.* .....W. ETCHELLS* (resigned July, 1908). .....G. BOTTOMLEY* .....T. A. CARTLEDGE* .....R. WILSON* (commenced Aug. 24, 1908).
Clerks... {	.....H. BAILEY. .....G. W. YATES.
Office Boy.....	H. MAWDSLEY.
Ambulance Attendant.....	G. WEBB.
Disinfecter.....	J. RAYNER.

*Those marked with an asterisk have obtained the Certificate of the Sanitary Institute.

To the Worshipful the Mayor, Aldermen, and Councillors of the County Borough of Stockport.



MR. MAYOR AND GENTLEMEN,

I HAVE the honour herewith to submit the Annual Report on the health and sanitary condition of your Borough for the year 1908. In preparing this report I have adhered as much as possible to the arrangement which has hitherto been adopted on account of this arrangement being in my opinion an excellent one, and also that it facilitates reference to previous reports.

The birth-rate was 27.94 per thousand of the population, an increase of nearly 1 per thousand over that of last year. It also compares favourably with that of England and Wales which was 26.5, and of the 76 Great Towns which was 27 per thousand of the population.

The death-rate was 19.99, as compared to 19.02 per thousand for 1907 ; this increase being largely accounted for by a higher infant mortality rate.

The high incidence of infectious disease has not been confined to your Borough, but has been more or less general in other urban districts. Great difficulty has been found in dealing with the epidemic nature of these diseases. I have endeavoured throughout the year to use your Isolation Hospital in such a manner as to be of the maximum value, as far as it has been available, in preventing the spread of infectious disease and it is with great pleasure that I have to record that your Hospital Committee is earnestly considering the representations which I have made advising an extension of the Dialstone Lane Hospital.

Your hospital at Whitehill was used during the year for the isolation of a case of smallpox. I have made some observations in the report with regard to this disease and its connection with imported cotton.

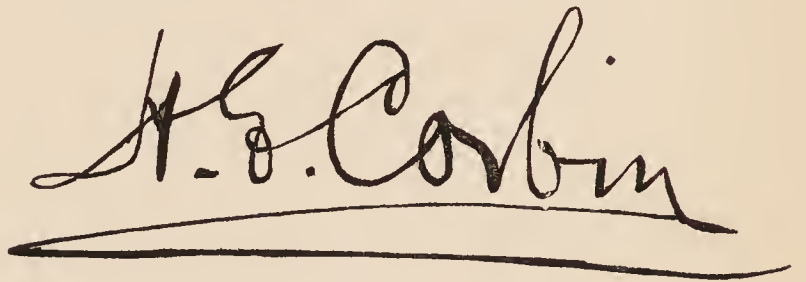
Recent legislation, more especially the Notification of Births Act, and the Education (Administrative Provisions) Act, has largely increased the work of the Department during the year.

In conclusion, I have to express my gratitude to the Chairman (Dr. H. G. Smeeth) and members of the Health Committee for their support during the year, and for the earnest consideration which they have given to my suggestions. I must also express my sincere thanks to both the staff at your hospital and to the inspectors and clerks of your Health Department for the zeal and loyalty with which they have carried out their duties.

I have the honour to be,

Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "H. G. Corbin". The signature is written in dark ink and is underlined with a single horizontal stroke.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,

TOWN HALL,

STOCKPORT,

May 25th, 1909.



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PART 1.

Statistical.

COUNTY BOROUGH OF STOCKPORT,
1908.

STATISTICAL MEMORANDA.

	Stockport.	England and Wales.	76 Great Towns.	142 Smaller Towns.	England & Wales less the 218 Towns.
Estimated Population, Mid- year, 1908.....	102339	—	—	—	—
Area in Acres	5485	—	—	—	—
Birth Rate per 1,000	27.94	26.5	27.0	26.0	26.2
General Death Rate, per 1,000	19.99	14.7	15.8	14.7	13.8
Death of Infants under One Year, per 1,000 Births.	171	121	128	124	110
Death Rate from Seven Prin- cipal Zymotic Diseases.	2.99	1.29	1.59	1.26	0.99
Death Rate from Phthisis (Pulmonary Consumption)	1.26	—	—	—	—
Death Rate from all other Tubercular Diseases ...	0.94	—	—	—	—

Population.

The estimated population to Midsummer, 1908=102,339.

This is the Registrar General's estimated population, and is calculated on the assumption that the same rate of increase which occurred from the 1891 census to the 1901 census has been maintained from the last census to the present time.

As there are so many factors which determine the rate of increase, it is probable that this estimate varies a good deal from the truth; and having regard to the great importance of correct statistics in so far as they relate to birth rates, death rates, and disease rates, it would be of great value to the community if a quinquennial instead of a decennial census was determined.

Another way of estimating the population is known as the natural increase, viz., the excess of total births over total deaths. Taking the estimated population of 1902 (the year following the Borough Extension) of 94,422 to be correct, and adding to this the excess of births over deaths, viz., 5,604, the population according to this estimate=100,026. In a large urban district the actual increase, however, is as a general rule greater than the natural increase on account of the tendency of migration from rural to urban districts.

The third method of estimating the population is from the number of inhabited houses. The number of inhabited houses in the Borough during the year 1908 was 24,583. Taking the number of persons per inhabited house at 4.25 this gives a population of 104,477.

The number of persons per inhabited house fell from 4.53 at the 1891 census to 4.36 in 1901; assuming that the same proportionate decrease has taken place the figure 4.25 taken above will represent approximately the number of persons per inhabited house for this year.

The decline in the number of persons per inhabited house is probably due to several factors, of which may be mentioned tendency to decrease in the mean proportion of persons per family, also some tendency to the diminution of overcrowding, and further to the fact that large numbers of recently erected houses are occupied by newly married couples.

The Borough Surveyor has kindly furnished me with a statement of the number of houses built during the past year. Of 450 houses built the majority have been erected in Reddish North, Edgeley, Shaw Heath, and Reddish South wards.

<i>Name of Ward.</i>	<i>No. of Houses built during 1908.</i>
Lancashire Hill	3
Heaton Lane	15
Old Road	—
Portwood.....	11

<i>Name of Ward.</i>	<i>No. of Houses built during 1908.</i>
St. Mary's	—
Vernon	1
Spring Bank	—
Hollywood.....	20
Edgeley	88
Shaw Heath	84
St. Thomas'	6
Hempshaw Lane	—
Cale Green	9
Heaviley	48
Reddish North	98
Reddish South	67
Total.....	450

An urban district may roughly be divided into three zones, so far as question of population is concerned; A *central zone* of diminishing population; an *intermediate zone*, of which the population is more or less constant; and a *peripheral zone*, in which the population is increasing. This is strikingly demonstrated in the Borough of Stockport. The central wards, viz., Old Road, St. Mary's, Spring Bank, and St. Thomas', each show a smaller population in the present year than ten years ago. Lancashire Hill and Heaton Lane Wards show a very slight change. The outlying wards, Heaviley, Hollywood, Shaw Heath, and Edgeley, show a considerable increase in the ten years; and since the borough extension a very rapid increase in the population has occurred in Reddish, especially in the North Ward.

Based upon the estimate of the Registrar-General and upon the figures above quoted of the Borough Surveyor, an estimate has been made of the various Ward populations, and the figures are given herewith as showing the distribution of the population and the density of the various districts.

<i>Ward.</i>	<i>Acre- age.</i>	<i>Estim- ated Popu- lation.</i>	<i>Per- sons per Acre.</i>	<i>Ward.</i>	<i>Acre- age.</i>	<i>Estim- ated Popu- lation.</i>	<i>Per- sons per Acre.</i>
Lancashire Hill	145	5248	36.12	Edgeley	331	7565	22.85
Heaton Lane . .	234	6405	27.37	Shaw Heath . .	392	8868	22.62
Old Road	114	6020	52.80	St. Thomas' . . .	53	5638	106.38
Portwood	324	7688	23.73	Hempshaw L'e	146	5510	37.74
St. Mary's	91	3753	41.24	Cale Green	145	6778	46.74
Vernon	427	6133	14.36	Heaviley	1115	7793	6.99
Spring Bank . . .	81	5000	61.73	Reddish North.	786	6925	8.81
Hollywood	346	8595	24.84	Reddish South	755	4420	5.85
				<i>Whole Borough</i>	5485	102,339	18.66

Growth of Stockport.

Year.	Inhabited Houses.	Houses Vacant. Building.		Population.	Total Increase.	Total Decrease.	Increase per cent.	Decrease per cent.
1841	8814	†1157	..	†50495	7495	..	17.43	..
1851	10568	..	..	†53835	3340	..	6.61	..
1861	11298	..	..	†54682	847	..	1.57	..
1871	..	..	..	†53001	..	1681	..	3.07
1881	13007	*†1558	74	†59553	6552	..	12.36	..
1891	15573	*†1216	100	†70263	10710	..	17.93	..
1892	..	..	..	71000	737	..	1.04	..
1893	16269	*870	170	71930	930	..	1.309	..
1894	16397	*804	150	72770	840	..	1.16	..
1895	16859	*876	100	73620	850	..	1.16	..
1896	17190	*890	120	74480	860	..	1.16	..
1897	17693	*613	197	75350	870	..	1.16	..
1898	17888	*561	..	76220	870	..	1.15	..
1899	18148	*600	197	77100	880	..	1.15	..
1900	18320	*697	220	78000	900	..	1.16	..
1901	†17982	*†753	†71	†78897	897	..	1.15	..
1902	21872	*844	180	†94422	15525	..	19.67	..
1903	22158	*875	194	95709	1287	..	1.36	..
1904	22684	*1007	205	97008	1299	..	1.35	..
1905	23056	*1056	300	98320	1312	..	1.35	..
1906	23499	*1167	285	99646	1326	..	1.35	..
1907	24051	*1097	230	100986	1340	..	1.34	..
1908	24583	*1013	260	102339	1353	..	1.34	..

† Census Return.

* Not including lock-up shops, factories, and warehouses unoccupied at night, which number at the present time 1117.

‡ Borough Extension.

Marriages.

The number of Marriages solemnised during 1908 was 779, or 83 less than in 1907, the marriage rate per 1,000 persons living being 15.2.

Of the 779 marriages during the year 456 were solemnised according to the rites of the Established Church, 57 under Roman Catholic rites, 2 under Jewish rites, 124 according to the rites of other religious denominations, and 140 at the Registrar's Office.

<i>Year.</i>	<i>Number of Marriages.</i>	<i>Rate per 1000 Living.</i>	<i>Rate for England and Wales.</i>
1893	486	13.5	14.7
1894	615	16.9	15.1
1895	680	18.4	15.0
1896	585	15.7	15.8
1897	689	18.2	16.0
1898	706	18.5	16.3
1899	754	19.8	16.5
1900	753	19.3	16.0
1901	687	17.4	15.9
1902	808	17.1	15.8
1903	711	14.8	15.6
1904	811	16.7	15.2
1905	837	17.02	15.3
1906	902	18.1	15.6
1907	862	17.07	15.8
1908	779	15.2	14.9

Births.

During the year 1908 there have been 2,860 births registered in your district, viz., 1,465 males and 1,395 females. The birth-rate per thousand of the estimated population of the Borough being 27.94; this is higher than the birth-rate for 1907, which was 27.03, but is slightly lower than the average rate for the last ten years, viz., 28.3.

The birth-rate for England and Wales in the year 1908 was 26.5.

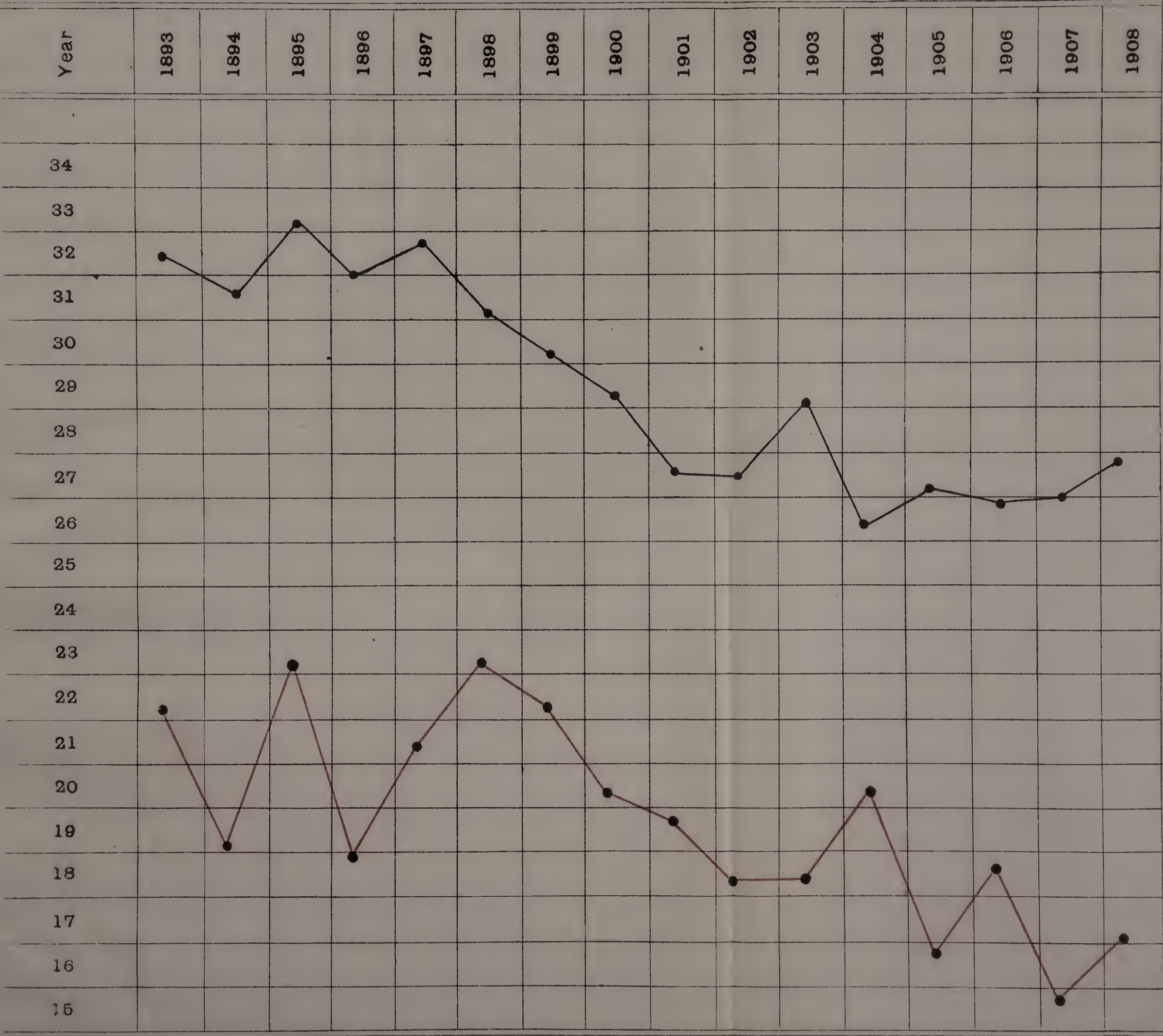
The rates in the different wards of the Borough vary enormously, Reddish North having the very high rate of 40.43. This ward is to be congratulated on beating all previous records in its birth-rate since it has been attached to the Borough, the previous highest rate being 35.29 in 1907. Reddish South has the next highest birth-rate, viz., 33.26. The lowest birth-rate occurred in St. Mary's and Cale Green Wards, viz., 18.65 and 16.82 respectively.

Commenting on the fall in the birth-rate the Registrar-General states:—"Heavy as the fall in the birth-rate has been in this country, the effects in regard to the numbers of the population have been to some extent modified by the decline in the death-rate, but clearly the death-rate cannot continue to decline indefinitely, and the effective addition in the population, i.e., the annual rate of increase by excess of births over deaths, which was 14.56 per thousand living in the period 1876-80, had fallen to 11.27 per thousand in 1907."

The Registrar-General also has sufficient grounds for stating that "during the past 30 years approximately 14 per cent. of the decline in the birth-rate is due to the decrease in the proportion of married women in the female population of conceptive ages, and that over 7 per cent. is due to the decrease of illegitimacy. With regard to the remaining 79 per cent. of the decrease, although some of the reduced fertility may be ascribed to changes in the age constitution of married women, there can be little doubt that much of it is due to deliberate restriction of child-bearing."

COUNTY BOROUGH OF STOCKPORT.

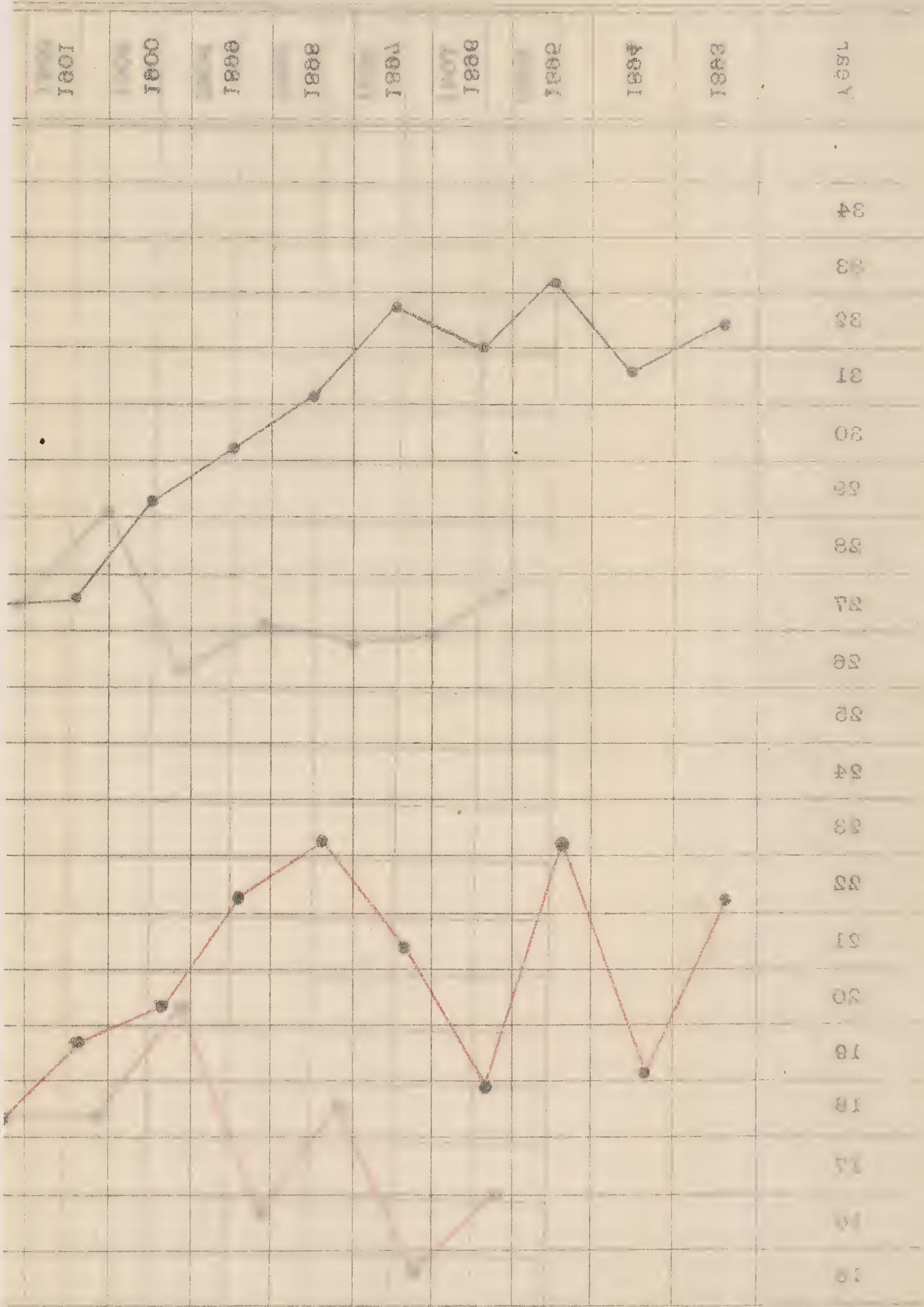
Chart showing the Annual Birth-rate per thousand of the population,
and the Infant Mortality Rate per cent. of Registered Births,
for the past 16 years (1893-1908).



Birth Rate Indicated by Black lines.
infant Mortality Rate Indicated by Red lines.

COUNTY BOROUGH OF S.

Chart showing the Annual Birth-rate per thousand and the Infant Mortality Rate per cent. of for the past 16 years (1893-1908)



Birth Rate indicated by Black line
Infant Mortality Rate indicated by Red line

I append herewith a comparative statement of the Birth and Death Rates for the Borough for the years for which accurate statistics are available.

<i>Year.</i>	<i>Birth Rate.</i>	<i>Nett Death Rate.</i>	<i>Zymotic Death Rate</i>	<i>Infant Mortality.</i>
1893	32.54	24.25	4.9	222
1894	31.68	19.00	1.6	192
1895	33.36	25.40	4.5	231
1896	32.06	21.30	3.08	189
1897	32.82	22.89	5.09	214
1898	31.23	21.60	4.2	231
1899	30.28	21.67	4.5	221
1900	29.44	22.64	2.29	203
1901	27.70	19.63	3.04	197
1902	27.59	19.40	1.95	183
1903	29.25	20.08	2.52	184
1904	26.45	21.59	3.33	203
1905	27.13	18.22	2.20	168
1906	26.95	21.07	3.27	186
1907	27.03	19.02	1.76	158
1908	27.94	19.99	2.99	171

Illegitimacy.

Having regard to the important bearing of illegitimacy on the chances of life in infants, I have obtained detailed information showing the infantile death-rate per thousand births among illegitimate children in order to compare this with the infantile death-rate per thousand births among legitimate children.

It will be seen from the table that there have been 112 illegitimate births registered in the Borough; this is an increase of 31 on the number registered last year. Comparing the infant mortality among illegitimate children, it will be seen that during the year it was almost exactly double the infant mortality among children born in wedlock.

As the fullest information is obtained by the Health Department, and these cases receive special visitation and are kept under observation as long as possible, these figures show to what an extraordinary extent the chances of life in these children are jeopardised by the unfortunate circumstances of their birth.

In the following table is shewn the number of illegitimate births registered in the Borough during the past 10 years :—

<i>Year.</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>Year.</i>	<i>No.</i>
1899	90	1904.....	103
1900	125	1905.....	100
1901	61	1906.....	78
1902	57	1907.....	81
1903	105	1908.....	112

<i>Esti- mated popula- tion, 1908.</i>	<i>Births.</i>		<i>Illegitimate Births.</i>		<i>Total deaths under 1 year of age.</i>	<i>Infan- tile mor- tality per 1000 births.</i>	<i>Deaths of illegiti- mates under one year of age.</i>	<i>Illegitimate infantile mortality per 1000 illegitimate births.</i>
	<i>Legit- imate.</i>	<i>Illegit- imate.</i>	<i>to 1000 living.</i>	<i>to 1000 births.</i>				
102339	2748	112	1.09	39.2	489	170.9	38	339.3

Still-Births.

The Central Midwives' Board has made it compulsory for all midwives to notify to the Local Supervising Authority still-births which occur in their district. During the year 1908, 86 still-births have been brought to the notice of the Department by midwives. This is an increase of 16 over last year, and it is probable that this indicates wider knowledge of the responsibility of midwives to notify to the Medical Officer of Health.

Deaths.

The number of deaths to record for the Borough during the year 1908 is 1,894, viz., 948 males and 946 females.

This is not the actual number registered in the district, as 68 deaths of non-residents which have occurred within the Borough have been subtracted from, and 41 deaths of Stockport residents which have occurred in other parts have been added to the total number of registered deaths.

The death-rate per thousand of the estimated population, corrected for age constitution of the population of the Borough by the Registrar-General's factor, amounts to 19.99, which is slightly higher than the rate for 1907, but lower than the average death-rate for ten years, viz., 20.49.

The death-rate for England and Wales for 1908 was 14.7; that of the 76 great towns 15.8, that of the 142 smaller towns 14.7, and that of England and Wales, less the 218 towns, was 13.8.

The slight increase in the death-rate for the Borough during this year over the previous year is readily accounted for by an increase in the infantile mortality, 170.9, as compared to 157.8 last year, together with an increased zymotic death-rate of 2.99, as compared to 1.76 last year. There has also been a considerable increase in the number of deaths from diarrhœa this year. This increase must be accounted for by epidemic influences which are mainly climatic, and which predisposed to an increase in the death-rate in these directions over that of 1907, which was an unusually favourable year, and during which the zymotic and infantile death-rates throughout the country was lower than for many years.

In the following table are shewn the deaths which occurred within the district of persons not belonging thereto :—

<i>Where from.</i>	DIED IN.			
	<i>Workhouse Hospital.</i>	<i>Work- house.</i>	<i>Infirmary</i>	<i>Elsewhere.</i>
Hyde	24	3	1	1
Woodley	1	..	1	..
Bredbury	4	..	1	..
Romiley	1	..	1	..
Compstall	2	..	..	..
Marple	4	..	1	..
Hazel Grove	2	..	..	1
New Mills	1	..	1	..
Whaley Bridge.....	..	..	1	..
Cheadle	3	..	..	..
Cheadle Hulme	3	..	..	..
Gatley	1	..	1	..
Heaton Mersey	2	..	..	..
Wilmslow .....	..	..	1	..
Gorton	1	..	..	..
Longsight	1	..	..	..
Prestwich	1	..	..	..
Oldham	1	..	..	..
Oswaldtwistle .....	..	..	1	..
Newcastle-under-Lyme ...	..	1	..	..
Totals.....	52	4	10	2

In the following table are shewn the deaths which occurred without the district of persons belonging thereto :—

Manchester (Royal Infirmary) ..	5	Cheadle (Royal Asylum)	1
„ (Ancoats Hospital) .	1	Macclesfield (Parkside Asylum).	22
„ (Northern Hospital)	1	Oldham (Workhouse).....	1
„ (St. Mary’s Hospital)	1	Heaton Chapel (on railway)...	2
„ (Mr. Crossley’s Home		„ (River Mersey).	1
for Consumptives,		Heaton Mersey (on railway) ...	1
Openshaw)	2	Didsbury (River Mersey)	1
„ (Private Nursing			
Home, 24, York			
Place)	1		
„ (in Market Street) ..	1		

Deaths in Institutions.

In the various public institutions in Stockport 331 persons belonging to the town have died during the year. These deaths have been distributed to the Wards in which the persons were normally resident, as shewn in the following table :—

Ward.	DIED IN.			
	Workhouse Hospital.	Work-house.	Infirmary.	Isolation Hospital.
Lancashire Hill	13	1	3	1
Heaton Lane	15	1	5	..
Old Road	11	..	6	3
Portwood.....	28	1	4	..
St. Mary’s	12	2	3	..
Vernon	9	3	..	1
Spring Bank	23	2	2	..
Hollywood.....	18	2	4	1
Edgeley	8	..	4	1
Shaw Heath	23	5	7	1
St. Thomas’	28	2	7	2
Hempshaw Lane	26	2	5	..
Cale Green	8	1	2	..
Heaviley	7	..	1	1
Reddish North	4	..	3	..
Reddish South	4	..	2	..
Totals.....	237	22	58	11

There were also 3 deaths elsewhere which come under this heading.

COMPARATIVE MORTALITY DURING LAST DECENNIUM.

Herein are set out the principal causes of death in the Borough for the past ten years.

<i>Cause of Death.</i>	<i>Number of Deaths.</i>									
	1908	1907	1906	1905	1904	1903	1902	1901	1900	1899
<i>Seven Chief Zymotics ..</i>	284	165	302	201	300	224	185	240	179	354
Smallpox .....	..	..	..	..	14	5	7	..	..	..
Scarlet Fever	14	13	3	7	21	27	23	25	5	10
Diphtheria.....	14	17	8	7	15	9	11	17	15	5
“ Fevers ”— Typhoid and Continued ..	7	8	9	9	11	13	13	14	17	9
Measles	65	20	70	18	65	41	36	51	24	93
Whooping Cough	31	47	35	32	8	49	33	13	41	31
Diarrhoea	153	60	177	128	166	80	62	120	77	206
Influenza	20	13	12	9	11	9	9	12	23	36
Lung Diseases (includ- ing Phthisis)	488	525	485	425	506	497	529	437	539	488
Heart Disease	243	234	233	197	222	190	199	152	126	119
Injury	41	38	38	31	35	30	63	21	39	50

Table I.—LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD RETURN.
Vital Statistics of whole District during 1908, and ten previous years.—Name of District, STOCKPORT.

YEAR.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	BIRTHS.		TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT.				TOTAL DEATHS IN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS IN THE DISTRICT	Deaths of Non-residents registered in Public Institution's &c., in the District.	Deaths of Residents registered in Public Institution's &c., beyond the District	NETT DEATHS AT ALL AGES BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.	
		Number.	Rate.*	Under 1 Year of Age.		At all Ages.					Number.	Rate.*
				Number.	Rate per 1000 Births Registered.	Number.	Rate.*					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1898	76,220	2381	31.23	551	231	1699	24.05	226	52	..	1647	23.31
1899	77,100	2335	30.28	518	221	1738	24.32	278	67	..	1671	23.39
1900	78,000	2297	29.44	467	203	1823	25.22	280	64	7	1766	24.43
1901	78,897	2186	27.70	431	197	1617	22.11	293	72	4	1549	21.18
1902	94,422	2606	27.59	477	183	1856	21.21	325	59	35	1832	20.94
1903	95,709	2800	29.25	515	183	1806	20.36	257	51	26	1781	20.08
1904	97,008	2566	26.45	520	202	1953	21.73	329	40	28	1941	21.59
1905	98,320	2668	27.13	448	168	1701	18.69	269	65	23	1659	18.22
1906	99,646	2686	26.95	501	186	1968	21.33	354	48	24	1944	21.07
1907	100,986	2730	27.03	431	157	1812	19.38	379	62	28	1778	19.02
Averages for years 1898-1907		2525	28.30	486	193	1797	21.84	299	58	..	1757	21.32
1908	102,339	2860	27.94	489	171	1921	20.27	398	68	41	1894	19.99

* Rates in Columns 4, 8, and 13 calculated per 1,000 of estimated population.
NOTE.—The whole of the above Death Rates (in columns 8 and 13) have been corrected by multiplying the figures by the Registrar General's factor, 1.0804

TABLE II.—LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD RETURN.—NAME OF DISTRICT **STOCKPORT.**

NAMES OF LOCALITIES.	1.—LANCASHIRE HILL.				2.—HEATON LANE.				3.—OLD ROAD.				4.—PORTWOOD.				5.—ST. MARY'S.				6.—VERNON.				7.—SPRING BANK.				8.—HOLLYWOOD.			
	Population esti- mated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population esti- mated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population esti- mated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population esti- mated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population esti- mated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population esti- mated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population esti- mated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population esti- mated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.
YEAR.	a.	b.	c.	d.	a.	b.	c.	d.	a.	b.	c.	d.	a.	b.	c.	d.	a.	b.	c.	d.	a.	b.	c.	d.	a.	b.	c.	d.	a.	b.	c.	d.
1898 ..	4827	162	104	28	5896	180	173	56	5762	195	128	49	6309	205	191	69	3618	122	107	31	5602	158	107	46	4827	188	120	36	6504	220	122	41
1899 ...	4882	153	105	31	5964	198	132	40	5828	189	120	33	6381	212	135	49	3659	128	122	35	5669	177	110	43	4383	144	136	36	6579	245	175	66
1900 ...	4940	147	84	24	6033	152	144	32	5897	193	105	35	6455	190	168	53	3702	114	123	23	5735	187	133	42	4940	162	151	41	6655	225	143	33
1901 ...	4998	167	93	30	6102	150	144	42	5966	163	106	27	6528	191	144	49	3745	89	89	15	5801	175	116	36	4997	129	117	36	6731	209	140	42
1902 ...	5084	149	99	29	6309	189	158	41	5966	178	126	29	7200	212	157	56	3745	107	89	20	5933	175	116	33	4997	146	139	38	8199	256	150	32
1903 ...	5103	166	72	25	6332	184	125	33	5976	160	116	38	7377	203	148	38	3750	89	102	17	6026	200	115	38	5002	147	129	40	8300	290	122	38
1904 ...	5116	143	114	30	6338	173	157	53	5976	169	143	35	7440	217	159	48	3750	69	94	21	6103	173	129	38	5002	148	126	41	8343	227	160	46
1905 ...	5128	143	85	31	6344	183	112	34	5980	180	121	36	7520	219	152	40	3753	68	81	21	6115	195	105	37	5000	142	91	18	8426	267	144	50
1906 ...	5200	155	122	37	6352	174	141	44	6020	146	122	30	7580	225	162	41	3753	62	94	23	6122	200	93	34	5000	132	134	36	8502	265	168	44
1907 ...	5233	132	93	28	6360	178	106	26	6020	156	119	24	7655	224	153	41	3753	63	70	18	6130	180	114	28	5000	142	115	31	8535	285	153	40
Averages of years 1898 to 1907.	5052	152	97	29	6203	176	139	40	5939	173	121	34	7044	210	157	48	3723	91	97	22	5924	182	114	37	4965	148	126	35	7677	249	148	43
1908 ...	5248	126	112	27	6405	153	123	29	6020	167	117	21	7688	242	176	46	3753	70	77	23	6133	185	114	35	5000	115	116	37	8595	247	160	48

Deaths of residents occurring beyond the district are included in sub-columns *c* of this table, and those of non-residents registered in the district excluded. (See note on Table I. as to meaning of terms "resident" and "non-resident.")
Deaths of residents occurring in public institutions are allotted to the respective localities, according to addresses of the deceased.

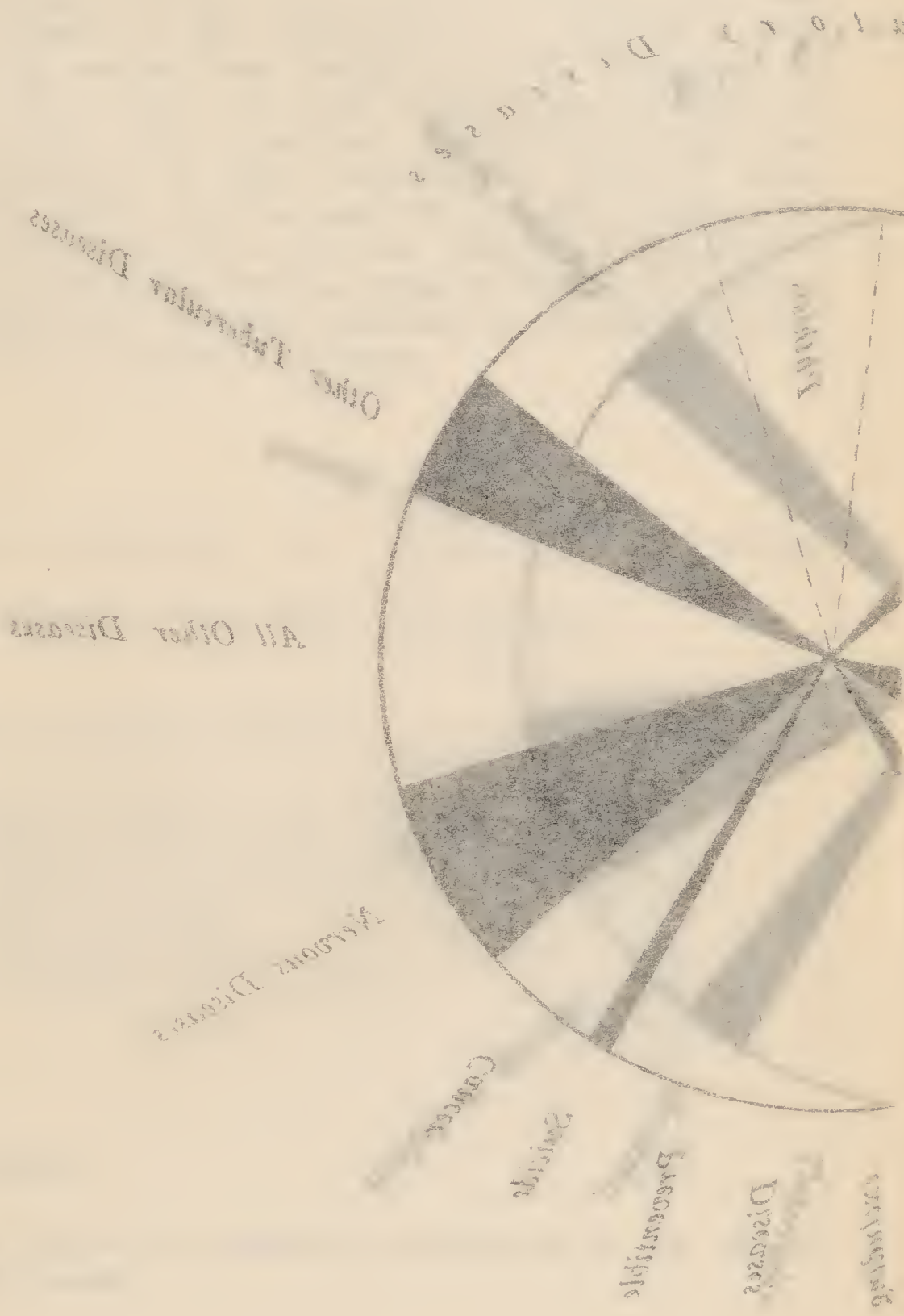
TABLE II.—LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD RETURN.—NAME OF DISTRICT **STOCKPORT.**

NAMES OF LOCALITIES.	9.—EDGELEY.				10.—SHAW HEATH.				11.—ST. THOMAS'S.				12.—HEMPSHAW LANE.				13.—CALE GREEN.				14.—HEAVILEY.				15.—REDDISH NORTH.				16.—REDDISH SOUTH.				WHOLE BOROUGH.			
	Population esti- mated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population esti- mated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population esti- mated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population esti- mated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population esti- mated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population esti- mated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population esti- mated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population esti- mated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population esti- mated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.
YEAR.	a.	b.	c.	d.	a.	b.	c.	d.	a.	b.	c.	d.	a.	b.	c.	d.	a.	b.	c.	d.	a.	b.	c.	d.	a.	b.	c.	d.	a.	b.	c.	d.	a.	b.	c.	d.
1898 ..	6185	202	97	34	5750	177	117	37	5397	189	147	50	4790	137	84	31	6368	138	77	19	4385	108	73	24	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	76220	2381	1647	551
1899 ...	6257	169	119	33	5817	158	122	44	5458	180	137	32	4846	155	107	40	6442	124	89	17	4435	103	62	19	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	77100	2335	1671	518
1900 ...	6329	221	94	31	5884	149	149	31	5523	155	158	41	4903	132	119	39	6516	146	104	15	4488	124	91	27	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	78000	2297	1766	467
1901 ...	6401	180	107	27	5951	159	115	33	5587	173	139	37	4960	148	100	27	6590	120	79	13	4540	133	60	17	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	78397	2186	1549	431
1902 ...	6891	157	93	16	7511	192	152	34	5598	135	131	30	5072	148	99	29	6618	139	92	24	6531	154	89	15	5037	165	84	30	3731	104	55	21	94422	2606	1832	477
1903 ..	6975	195	95	27	7735	225	145	43	5618	194	142	42	5200	175	109	47	6647	131	102	24	6692	165	105	27	5210	160	70	16	3766	116	84	22	95709	2800	1781	515
1904 ...	7148	182	106	24	7960	213	191	48	5618	138	131	31	5432	156	97	33	6693	140	89	18	6878	144	97	19	5435	155	75	13	3773	119	73	22	97008	2566	1941	520
1905 ...	7170	163	80	17	8175	259	148	30	5620	146	110	30	5438	151	111	33	6746	147	94	16	7010	137	95	16	5940	173	79	26	3955	95	51	13	98320	2668	1659	448
1906 ...	7215	148	118	27	8383	221	174	36	5620	166	138	44	5510	144	128	31	6746	105	87	14	7273	177	87	11	6275	220	94	25	4095	146	82	24	99646	2686	1944	501
1907 ...	7302	151	88	18	8615	217	129	27	5620	151	121	37	5510	161	122	30	6750	127	78	9	7648	204	116	27	6630	234	106	25	4220	125	95	22	100986	2730	1778	431
Averages of years 1898 to 1907.	6787	177	100	25	7178	197	144	36	5566	163	135	37	5166	151	108	34	6612	132	89	17	5988	145	87	20	5754	184	85	22	3923	117	73	20	89630	2525	1757	486
1908 ...	7565	190	103	15	8868	258	149	36	5638	145	139	38	5510	183	123	35	6778	114	98	21	7793	238	105	25	6925	280	99	27	4420	147	83	26	102339	2860	1894	489

Deaths of residents occurring beyond the district are included in sub-columns *c* of this table, and those of non-residents registered in the district excluded. (See note on Table I. as to meaning of terms "resident" and "non-resident.")
Deaths of residents occurring in public institutions are allotted to the respective localities, according to addresses of the deceased.

Table I.—LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD RETURN.
Vital Statistics of whole District during 1908 and ten previous years. N. 1000 of D.

Oct-1908.



Chief Causes of Death.

Stockport = 1908.

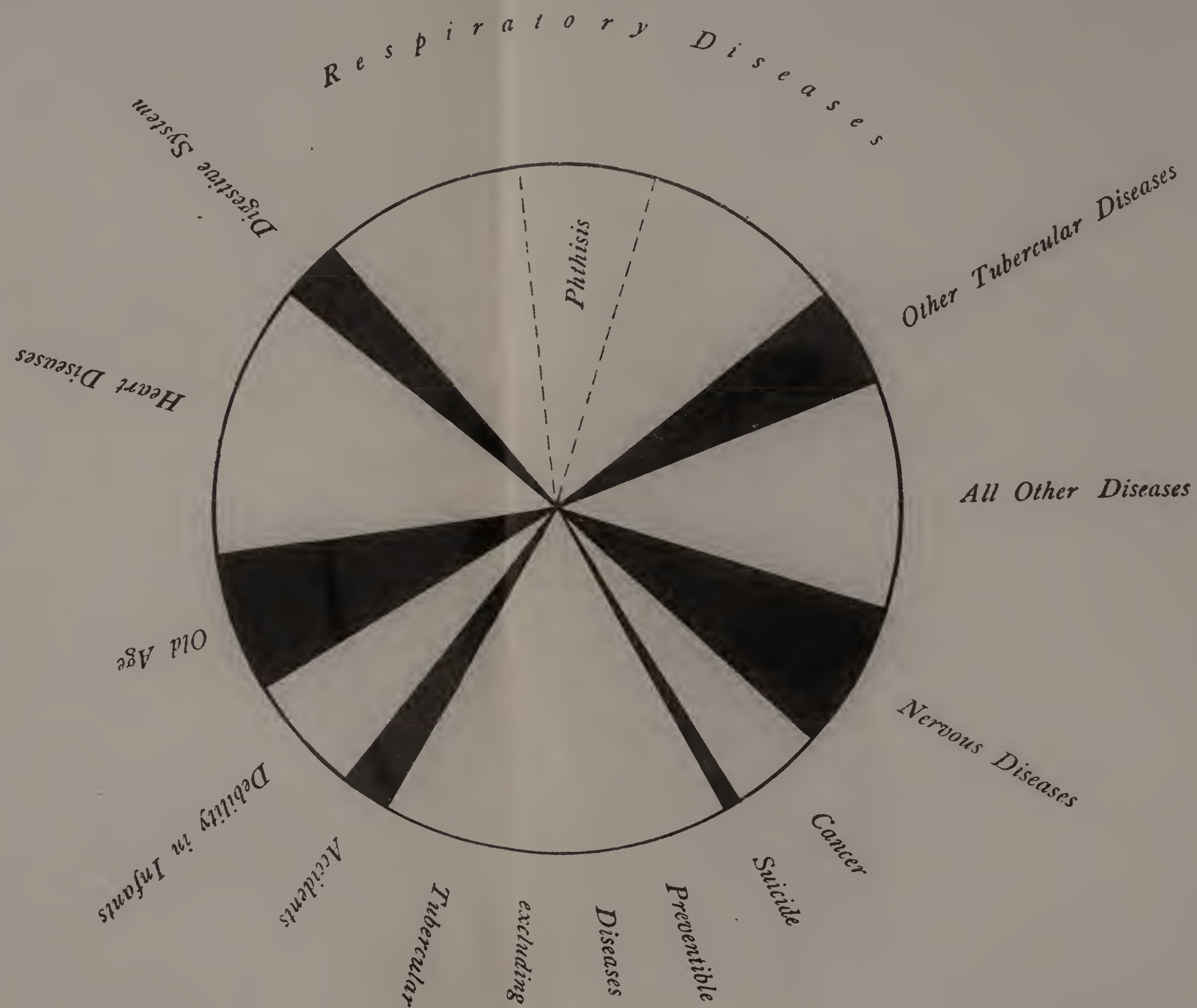


Diagram shewing Chief Causes of Death.

The Graphic Chart.

The frontispiece of the report constitutes *multum in parvo* graphically represented. This chart is annually prepared by Inspector Butler, and I should like to express my thanks to him for the care which he has taken to produce this valuable chart. A weekly record of deaths from all causes is indicated by the black columns, the infantile mortality is recorded by the shaded columns, and it will be clearly seen that this bears a direct relation to the temperature of the 4ft. earth thermometer. It will be noticed that during the month of August the mortality amongst children under one year rapidly rises, attaining its maximum during the last week of August, and that this rapid rise coincides with a temperature of 56°F recorded by the 4ft. earth thermometer. The lower red curve indicates the number of births per week, and it will be seen from this curve that until the Notification of Births Act came into force during the last week of March the curve is represented by a straight line, as until that time no weekly record of births was available for the Health Department.

TABLE SHOWING SUMMARY OF VITAL AND MORTAL
STATISTICS FOR THE BOROUGH.

	<i>No. of deaths.</i>
Lung Diseases (excluding Phthisis).....	368
Phthisis	120
Other Tubercular Diseases	90
Preventible Diseases (excluding Tubercular Diseases)	321
Diseases of Circulatory System (Heart, &c.).....	243
„ Nervous System	133
„ Digestive System	51
Debility and Wasting, etc., in Infants	103
Old Age.....	125
Cancer	85
Accidents.....	41
Suicides	11
All other Diseases	203

These deaths are in the main graphically represented in the circular chart accompanying the report.

Uncertified Deaths and Inquests.

During the year there were 109 deaths registered in which the cause of death was not certified by any medical practitioner. In 105 of these cases an inquest was held, and the verdicts found by the Coroner's juries may be summarised as follows :—

1.—*Natural Causes*

Inanition	1
Heart failure (syncope)	14
Heart disease	4
Convulsions	13
Apoplexy	3
Cerebral hæmorrhage	1
Paralysis	2
Epileptic fit	1
Septicæmia	1
Croup	1
Gastric ulcer.....	1
Acute peritonitis	1
Asphyxia following diphtheria .	1
Tubercular meningitis	1
Inflammation of lungs	1
Bronchitis	3
Pneumonia	5
Other natural causes	2

2.—*By Accident or Negligence*

In vehicular traffic.....	1
Burns and scalds	15
Poisoning	3
Falls from a height.....	4
Other injuries.....	4
Fractures	2
Concussion of brain.....	1
Suffocation, overlain.....	1
Drowning	4
By machinery	2

3.—*Suicide :*

By hanging and strangulation..	6
By drowning	3
By poison	2
Not stated	1

Mortality in the different Wards.

The NETT GENERAL DEATH-RATE for the Borough was 19.99 per thousand of the estimated population. This varied from 14.55 in Heaviley Ward, which records the lowest death-rate, to 26.63 in St Thomas' Ward, which records the highest death-rate. Edgeley, Reddish North, Cale Green, and Shaw Heath all have death-rates below the average, viz., 14.7, 15.44, 15.62, and 18.15 respectively; while the death-rates of Spring Bank, Portwood, Hempshaw Lane, and Lancashire Hill are all well above the average, viz., 25.06, 24.73, 24.11, and 23.05 respectively.

The ZYMOTIC DEATH-RATE was 2.99 per thousand for the whole Borough. This includes deaths from the 7 principal zymotic diseases, i.e., smallpox, measles, scarlet fever, diphtheria and membranous croup, whooping cough, fever (typhus, typhoid and continued), and diarrhœa. The lowest recorded death-rate under this heading is that of Heaviley Ward, which is .55; the highest that of Spring Bank, viz., 4.96. The high mortality from these diseases in Spring Bank Ward is accounted for by the high death-rate from diarrhœa. In St. Thomas' Ward it is also high, viz., 4.79, more than half of which is contributed to by infantile diarrhœa. The zymotic death-rate is over 4 per thousand in Lancashire Hill, Heaton Lane, Portwood, Vernon, Spring Bank, Hollywood, and St. Thomas' Wards; and is low in Heaviley, Edgeley, Cale Green, Reddish North, and Shaw Heath Wards. If the zymotic death-rate per thousand be compared with the densities of population, i.e., the number of persons per acre in the different wards, it will be found that the zymotic death-rate approximately varies directly with the density of the population.

SUMMARY OF THE VITAL AND MORTAL STATISTICS OF THE BOROUGH AND EACH OF ITS WARDS FOR THE YEAR 1908.

WARD.	Acreage.	Estima- ted Popula- tion.	Persons per acre.	No. of Births registered.		Birth rate.	Nett deaths *	Nett Death rate.	No. of de'ths under 1 year of age *	Infant mor- tality rate per 1000 births.	No. of de'ths from 7 prin- cipal Zy- motic dis- eases† *	Zymotic Death rate per 1000.	Zymotic death rate per 1000 (exclud- ing Diarrhoea)	No. of de'ths from Diarrhoea. *	Death rate from Diarrhoea per 1000.	No. of de'ths from Pthi- sis. *	Death rate from Pththisis per 1000.	No. of de'ths from other Tub'r- cular dis- eases *	Death rate from other Tuber- cular diseases per 1000.	No. of de'ths from Other Lung Dis- eases. *	Death rate from Other Lung Diseases per 1000.
				M.	F.																
LANCASHIRE HILL ...	145	5,248	36.12	71	55	24.01	112	23.05	27	214.2	20	4.11	2.05	10	2.05	6	1.23	3	1.64	21	4.32
				126																	
HEATON LANE ...	234	6,405	27.37	76	77	24.82	123	20.74	29	189.5	26	4.38	2.36	12	2.02	9	1.51	5	0.84	25	4.21
				153																	
OLD ROAD ...	114	6,020	52.80	88	79	27.74	117	20.99	21	125.7	18	3.23	1.61	9	1.61	6	1.07	10	1.79	22	3.94
				167																	
PORTWOOD ...	324	7,688	23.73	110	132	31.48	176	24.73	46	190.08	29	4.07	1.54	18	2.54	12	1.68	10	1.40	35	4.91
				242																	
ST. MARY'S ...	91	3,753	41.24	27	43	18.65	77	22.16	23	328.6	9	2.59	1.72	3	0.86	6	1.72	5	1.43	19	5.46
				70																	
VERNON ...	427	6,133	14.36	95	90	30.16	114	20.18	35	189.2	23	4.05	1.40	15	2.64	7	1.23	2	0.35	28	4.93
				185																	
SPRING BANK ...	81	5,000	61.73	67	48	23.00	116	25.06	37	321.7	23	4.96	1.72	15	3.24	9	1.94	8	1.72	22	4.75
				115																	
HOLLYWOOD...	346	8,595	24.84	136	111	28.74	160	20.11	48	194.3	32	4.02	2.13	15	1.88	14	1.75	9	1.13	25	3.13
				247																	
EDGELEY ...	331	7,565	22.85	99	91	25.11	103	14.70	15	78.9	7	0.99	0.71	2	0.28	5	0.71	2	0.28	19	2.71
				190																	
SHAW HEATH ...	392	8,868	22.62	128	130	29.09	149	18.15	36	139.5	16	1.94	1.09	7	0.85	8	0.97	4	0.48	26	3.16
				258																	
ST. THOMAS' ...	53	5,638	106.33	76	69	25.72	139	26.63	38	262.07	25	4.79	1.91	15	2.87	6	1.14	6	1.14	36	6.89
				145																	
HEMPSHAW LANE ..	146	5,510	37.74	107	76	33.21	123	24.11	35	136.6	16	3.13	0.97	11	2.15	7	1.37	7	1.37	19	3.72
				183																	
CALE GREEN ..	145	6,778	46.74	63	51	16.82	98	15.62	21	184.2	10	1.59	1.27	2	0.31	7	1.11	4	0.63	14	2.23
				114																	
HEAVILEY ...	1115	7,793	6.99	121	117	30.54	105	14.55	25	105.04	4	0.55	0.27	2	0.27	5	0.69	1	0.13	25	3.46
				238																	
REDDISH NORTH...	786	6,925	8.81	131	149	40.43	99	15.44	27	96.4	10	1.56	0.93	4	0.62	5	0.78	5	0.78	23	3.58
				280																	
REDDISH SOUTH...	755	4,420	5.85	70	77	33.26	83	20.28	26	176.7	16	3.91	0.73	13	3.17	8	1.95	4	0.97	9	2.19
				147																	
STOCKPORT BOROUGH	5485	102339	18.66	1465	1395	27.94	M 948 F 946 1894	19.99	M 259 F 230 489	170.9	M 143 F 141 234	2.99	1.38	M 75 F 78 153	1.61	M 65 F 55 120	1.26	M 45 F 45 90	0.94	M 187 F 181 368	3.88

* Deaths of Stockport residents in the Union Workhouse, Infirmary, and Isolation Hospital are here referred to the Wards in which they lived.
Deaths within the Borough of Non-residents from out-townships are excluded. (See following table.)

† The "Seven Principal Zymotic Diseases" are Smallpox, Measles, Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria and Membranous Croup, Whooping Cough, Fever (typhus, typhoid, and continued), and Diarrhoea.

§ Registrar General's estimates.

PHTHISIS DEATH-RATE.—The death-rate from pulmonary tuberculosis or consumption of the lungs for the whole Borough is 1.26 per thousand, there having been altogether 120 deaths from this disease. The figures for the different wards are too small for comparison, but the lowest death-rate per thousand from phthisis is recorded in Heaviley, Edgeley and Reddish North being the next in order. It is satisfactory that the death-rate from phthisis is lower than that of the previous year, and that there is a general tendency for the death-rate from this cause to show a gradual decline from year to year.

The **INFANTILE MORTALITY** for the whole Borough for the year was at the rate of 170.9 per thousand births registered, this figure representing 489 deaths of children under one year of age. This rate shows that about one-sixth of the whole children born in the Borough during the year died before the end of their first year. Of these 489 deaths, 110 or 22 per cent. died before the age of one month. The classification and causes of these deaths, together with some preventive measures, will be mentioned later in the report.

With regard to the ward distribution, the highest mortality occurred in St. Mary's, viz., 328.6; this is closely followed by Spring Bank with 321.7; or roughly one-third of all the children born in these wards died before attaining the age of one year. The lowest infantile mortality occurred in Edgeley, viz., 78.9. This may be regarded as the lowest figure that one can reasonably expect an infantile mortality rate to attain. This very low rate is dependent to some extent on the low zymotic death-rate for that district during the year. Reddish North and Heaviley show the next lowest rates of 96.4 and 105.04 respectively.

Infectious Disease Notification Act.

During the year the number of cases of infectious disease notified has been no less than 835. The great majority of these cases, viz., 574, have been cases of scarlet fever, the incidence of which disease has been almost constant throughout the year, the greatest number of cases occurring in the Autumn and Winter, though a large number were notified in May.

The number of cases of diphtheria which were notified during the year was 44, and the incidence of this disease also was scarcely affected by climatic conditions, cases being constantly notified each month. The number of cases of membranous croup which have been notified has only been 5, but I have reason to believe that many of these cases of laryngeal diphtheria are not notified unless there is evidence of disease in the throat, while others are included under the name of diphtheria.

Typhoid fever showed a definite and typical seasonal incidence, few cases being notified in the Spring and Summer, while the disease became more prevalent during the Autumn months, and reaching a maximum in November, 49 cases being notified altogether during the year.

Only 8 cases of puerperal fever have been notified, and though this is 3 more than last year, it is hoped that a very low figure for this disease will be maintained. The careful supervision of midwives, and the ever-increasing number of trained women who are getting recognised certificates to act as midwives, will do much to abolish this fatal disease.

Fifty-nine cases of erysipelas have been reported during the year, and having regard to the fact that only 2 deaths have occurred, it is probable that many slight inflammatory conditions are notified under this heading.

Of phthisis 95 cases have been notified during the year under a system of voluntary notification. This is not so great as in the previous year, when 139 cases were notified. Under the new Tuberculosis Regulations which have recently been issued it is anticipated that a very great increase in the notifications from this disease will result, and that in the most desirable class from the point of view of enforcing proper sanitary and preventive precautions.

During the year 1 case of smallpox occurred on March 24th.

CASES REPORTED DURING 1908.

Month.	Small-pox.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Membranous Croup	Typhoid Fever.	Continued Fever	Puerperal Fever.	Erysipelas	Phthisis	Total
January	..	48	5	..	1	..	..	6	5	65
February	..	50	3	1	..	..	1	7	5	67
March...	1	52	5	1	1	..	..	5	9	74
April....	..	44	1	..	1	..	1	6	3	56
May ....	..	59	4	..	2	..	1	5	16	87
June ...	..	38	2	..	4	..	..	3	3	50
July ....	..	38	5	..	1	..	..	5	5	54
August .	..	29	4	1	4	..	1	6	6	51
Sept'mb'r	..	35	4	..	6	..	..	1	5	51
October .	..	54	4	..	3	..	2	2	13	78
Nov'mb'r	..	64	4	..	14	..	..	4	10	96
Dec'mber	..	63	3	2	12	..	2	9	15	106
Totals...	1	574	44	5	49	..	8	59	95	835
			49							

TABLE III.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD RETURNS. STOCKPORT DISTRICT.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR, 1908.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTRICT.							TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED IN EACH LOCALITY.																				NO. OF CASES REMOVED TO HOSPITAL FROM EACH LOCALITY.																				Union Cases Treated in Union Hospital Stepping Hill.	Infirmary Cases Treated in Infirmary.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																															
	At Ages—Years.							Wards and Institutions.																				Wards and Institutions.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																				
	At all Ages.	Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 65.	65 and upwards.	No. 1	No. 2	No. 3	No. 4	No. 5	No. 6	No. 7	No. 8	No. 9	No. 10	No. 11	No. 12	No. 13	No. 14	No. 15	No. 16	Infirmary	Union Workhouse	Union Hospital	Totals	No. 1	No. 2	No. 3	No. 4	No. 5	No. 6	No. 7	No. 8	No. 9	No. 10	No. 11	No. 12	No. 13	No. 14	No. 15	No. 16	Infirmary	Union Workhouse	Union Hospital	Totals																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																	
								Lancashire Hill	Heaton Lane	Old Road	Portwood	St. Mary's	Vernon	Spring Bank	Hollywood	Edgeley	Shaw Heath	St. Thomas'	Hempshaw Lane	Cale Green	Heaviley	Reddish North	Reddish South					Lancashire Hill	Heaton Lane	Old Road	Portwood	St. Mary's	Vernon	Spring Bank	Hollywood	Edgeley	Shaw Heath	St. Thomas'	Hempshaw Lane	Cale Green	Heaviley	Reddish North	Reddish South																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																					
Small-pox...	1				1												1				A	B				1										1																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																												

NOTES.—The localities adopted for this table are the same as those in Tables II. and IV. Isolation Fever Hospital is situated in Heaviley (marked A.)
Smallpox Isolation Hospital is situated in Reddish South (marked B.)

Vaccination.

In the following tables the returns relating to primary vaccination of infants during the decennium, 1898—1907, in the various registration districts of Stockport are exhibited. It is to be noted that these registration districts formerly included portions of Reddish, Heaton Norris, and Brinnington outside the Borough boundaries, but a re-arrangement of the district was effected in 1903, so that a slight variation in the figures results. The number of certificates of successful primary vaccination, at all ages, received during the last ten years has been as follows:—

1899	.....	1,970
1900	.....	2,062
1901	.....	2,217
1902	.....	2,368
1903	.....	2,466
1904	.....	2,242
1905	.....	2,202
1906	.....	2,099
1907	.....	2,038
1908	.....	1,753

Year ending 31st December.	No. of Births registered	Successfully Vaccinated.	Insusceptible of Vaccination.	Had Smallpox.	Number in respect of whom Certificates of Conscientious Objection have been received.	Dead Unvaccinated.	Postponement by Medical Certificate.	Removal to districts the Vaccination Officer of which has been duly apprised.	Removal to places unknown or which cannot be reached and cases not having been found.	Unaccounted for.
1898	2750	1935	9	..	58	481	38	13	149	67
1899	2725	1926	18	..	52	439	60	8	151	71
1900	2719	2062	16	..	55	417	51	14	87	17
1901	2566	2031	4	..	52	363	*29	8	65	14
(1)1902	1937	1450	3	..	28	303	†32	45	65	36
1903	2800	2179	6	..	41	392	‡69	7	94	14
1904	2566	1998	6	1	31	385	a50	2	79	14
1905	2668	2039	4	..	47	366	b81	2	126	4
1906	2686	2018	9	..	79	396	c67	3	117	7
1907	2730	1896	12	..	159	363	d99	8	184	13
<i>Totals</i>	26147	19534	87	1	602	3905	576	110	1117	257

I am indebted to the courtesy of C. F. Johnson, Esq., solicitor, Clerk to the Guardians, for these figures.

* 8	of these cases will never be fit to be vaccinated.				
† 7	„	„	„	„	„
‡ 16	„	„	„	„	„
a 15	„	„	„	„	„
b 25	„	„	„	„	„
c 20	„	„	„	„	„
d 36	„	„	„	„	„

The figures for the years 1903-7 are for the Borough only.

(1) Owing to the former Registration Districts not being co-terminous with the Borough, the figures for 1902 only relate to a portion of the Borough.

From the table given it will be seen that the number of successful vaccinations for the year 1908 is much lower than in the previous year, and indeed lower than for many previous years. Further, that the number in respect of whom certificates of conscientious objection have been received is largely in excess of any number during the previous ten years. This is undoubtedly due to the facilities which are placed before the conscientious objector in the new Vaccination Act of 1907, which enables him to obtain a certificate of exemption without going into Court. There is no doubt that slackness with regard to the vaccination of young children will cause an accumulation of inflammable material in the community, and instead of smallpox being somewhat more commonly incident among adults, as at the present time, it will tend to attack young unvaccinated children as in the epidemics which have occurred before the passing of the Vaccination Acts.

Measles and Whooping Cough.

During the year there have been 96 deaths due to these two diseases, of which 65 were due to measles and 31 to whooping cough.

In the case of measles 12 of these deaths occurred under one year, and 49 between the ages of 1 and 5, the remainder occurring between 5 and 15.

With regard to the age distribution of whooping cough a higher proportion, viz., 13, occurred under 1 year of age, 17 between 1 and 5, and the remaining one between 5 and 15.

The great danger with diseases such as measles and whooping cough, which may be regarded as infantile diseases, is that they are regarded lightly by parents and others having charge of the children, with the result that owing to exposure and want of care broncho-pneumonia and other complications result, which are extremely fatal to the children at the age when these diseases are wont to attack them. Although the case mortality, i.e., the number of deaths per cent. of actual cases suffering from the disease, is low in measles, yet on account of the extraordinary prevalence and frequency of this disease among children the number of deaths that have to be recorded is very high.

Fortunately, through the Education Department, the Health Department receives notifications of all children that have been excluded from school and are suspected to be suffering from these infectious diseases, and by means of distributing pamphlets warning the parents as to the dangers of these diseases, and in instructing them in measures which should be taken against them, we are able to do much good in lowering the mortality rates from these diseases.

Attached is a statement of the number of deaths due to measles and whooping cough continued from previous Reports.

Year.	Deaths due to Measles and Whooping-Cough.	Deaths due to the remainder of the zymotic diseases except diarrhoea.
1893	70	94
1894	4	32
1895	116	53
1896	51	55
1897	111	43
1898	73	35
1899	124	24
1900	65	37
1901	64	56
1902	69	54
1903	90	54
1904	73	61
1905	50	23
1906	105	20
1907	67	38
1908	96	35

Deaths from Diarrhoeal Disease.

During the year 1908 108 deaths of children under 2 years of age were due to diarrhoea, and nearly three-quarters of this number of deaths occurred from the end of the third month to the end of the first year. It is very significant that of the 108 deaths only 8 occurred among children who were wholly breast-fed up to the time of being weaned ; while 79 deaths or more than three-quarters of the total number occurred among children who had been bottle-fed.

The sanitary condition of the houses in which these deaths occurred is recorded as follows :—

House.....	Clean 99	..	Dirty 9
Food storing place	Good 75	..	Bad 33
Yard and surroundings	Clean 88	..	Dirty 20
Closet accommodation	Good 89	..	Bad 19
Drainage	Good 104	..	Bad 4

From this statement it is evident that 85 defects of various kinds have been discovered in the 108 houses, and in 33 of these the food storing place was bad. The greatest care should be taken in the storage of food which should be kept in a cool and properly ventilated apartment separated from the living rooms ; and, perhaps more important is the protection of the food, and especially of milk, from contamination through the medium of flies, which in many cases breed in the adjoining privy middens, and directly infect all the food in the dwelling houses of the immediate neighbourhood.

The deaths are here classified according to the age at which they occurred, and the nature of the feeding :—

			<i>Wholly</i> <i>Breast Fed.</i>		<i>Partially</i> <i>Breast Fed.</i>		<i>Artificially</i> <i>Fed.</i>
Death during	1st week		—	....	—	....	—
„	2nd „		—	....	—	....	—
„	3rd „		—	....	—	....	—
„	4th „		2	....	—	....	1
„	5th „		—	....	—	....	—
„	6th „		—	....	—	....	—
„	7th „		1	....	—	....	3
„	8th „		1	....	1	....	5
„	9th „		—	....	1	....	1
„	10th „		—	....	1	....	—
„	11th „		—	....	—	....	—
„	12th „		1	....	2	....	13
„	4th month		—	....	2	....	10
„	5th „		—	....	2	....	5
„	6th „		1	....	4	....	7
„	7th „		—	....	—	....	2
„	8th „		—	....	1	....	8
„	9th „		—	....	1	....	7
„	10th „		1	....	1	....	2
„	11th „		—	....	2	....	1
„	12th „		1	....	—	....	2
Over 1 and under 2 years			—	....	3	....	12
			8		21		79
			—		—		—

The following statement shows the localities in which fatal diarrrhœal disease occurred, and which have been carefully kept under sanitary supervision in consequence :—

Ward	Street	Day of Month Month		Ward	Street	Day of Month Month	
8	Sycamore Street	6..1		6	George Street	... { 2..2 } 2	
						{ 4..9 } cases	
1	Bury Street	.... { 7..1 } 2		9	Carmichael Street	7..2	
		{ 2..11 } cases					
12	Courthill Street	.. 16..1		8	Gradwell Street	.. 28..2	
2 {	Epsom Court,	26..1		8	Bk. Brook Street	{ 10..5 } 3	
	Longsight Street.	26..4				{ 10..8 } cases	
						{ 16..8 }	

Ward	Street	Day of Month Month		Ward	Street	Day of Month Month	
3	Short Street East	{ 21..5 } { 9.10 }	2 cases			{ 16..8 } { 18..8 } { 23..8 } { 24..8 } { 31..8 } { 12..9 }	6 cases
11	Adcroft Street ..	5..5		16	Weston Street ..		
12	Stafford Street ..	1..6					
7	Daw Bank	{ 7..6 } { 25..8 }	2 cases				
4	Brewery Street ..	30..6		4	{ Swann Street.... 14..8 Newton's Yard, do. 12..9 }		
6	St. James Street .	{ 31..7 } { 24.10 }	2 cases	4	Hatherlow Street.	15..8	
6	Star Street	31..7		7	Shrewsbury Street	16..8	
7	Clayton Street....	1..8		4	Denton Street ..	17..8	
2	{ Heaton Lane ... 3..8 Russell Court, do. 6..9 }			5	Barkes' Buildings, Churchgate ..	18..8	
4	Brady Street ..	5..8		2	Bridgefield Street	20..8	
4	Lancaster Street .	6..8		6	Tamworth Street	20..8	
7	Barnes Court, Chestergate ..	6..8		8	Brinksway	20..8	
10	Thomas Street W.	6..8		11	{ Hempshaw Lane 20..8 Jones Square, do. 24..8 }		
10	Pump Court, Chatham St. .	8..8		11	Thomas Street E.	21..8	
11	Swallow Street ..	9..8		15	Hobson Street ...	21..8	
11	Bamford Street ..	9..8		12	Rosemary Lane .	22..8	
2	Astley Street ...	10..8		16	Coronation Street	{ 22..8 } { 16..9 }	2 cases
12	Read Street	{ 11..8 } { 12..8 }	2 cases	7	Minstrel Court Duke Street..	{ 23..8 } { 29..8 }	2 cases
6	{ New Zealand Road 12..8 Alpine Road 10.10 }			14	Stepping Hill Hos- pital (Bramwell Street)	23..8	
4	{ Emperor Street . { 14..8 } { 24.10 } { 6.11 } Dean's Court, do. 23..8 }		3 cases	2	Brinksway Road.	24..8	
				3	Hesketh Street ..	24..8	
				7	Owen's Place, Wood Street .	24..8	

Ward	Street	Day of Month	Month		Ward	Street	Day of Month	Month	
10	Petersburg Road	24	8		7	Norbury Street	7	9	
11	Bannister Street	26	8		1	Smith Street	8	9	
14	Richardson Street	26	8		8	Trafford Street	8	9	
6	Stringer Street	27	8	2	2	Rooth Street	10	9	
		30	9	cases	7	Bk. Crowther St.	11	9	
	Stringer's Place, do.	17	9		10	York Street	13	9	
6	Hall Street	27	8		16	Hawkins Street	13	9	2
1	Rowland Street	29	8				6	11	cases
8	Ducie Street	29	8		1	Radley's Square, Lancashire Hill	14	9	2
7	Ridgway Lane	30	8				15	9	cases
2	Brunswick Street	31	8		4	Queen Street	14	9	
	Terrace Place, do.	7	9		15	Thornley Lane, Reddish	15	9	
5	Lawrence Street	31	8		16	Kendal Street	17	9	
8	Lottery Street	31	8		3	Oxford Street	18	9	
12	Old Gardens	31	8		11	Bamford Street	19	9	
11	Mottram Street	1	9	2	4	Richard Street	21	9	
		15	10	cases	3	Sheffield Street	23	9	
12	Banks Lane	1	9		11	Spinner Street	23	9	2
6	Newbridge Lane	3	9	2			6	11	cases
		12	9	cases	14	Stepping Hill Hos- pital (Shaw Hth.)	23	9	
3	Baker Street	4	9		16	Bangor Street	25	9	2
8	Lever Street	4	9				27	9	cases
1	Sandy Lane	5	9		4	Bk. Water Street	27	9	
4	Hill Street	5	9		7	Cross St. Place	2	10	
11	Ward Street	5	9		1	Hr. Bridge Street	5	10	
14	Carrington Field Street	5	9		15	Criterion Street	5	10	
13	Oxford Grove	6	9						

Ward	Street	Day of Month Month	Ward	Street	Day of Month Month
12	Briscoe Street ...	8.10	8	Pine Street	25.10
2	Travis Street ...	12.10	3	Church Street ...	27.10
4	Ashton Street ...	13.10	1	Rowland Street .	28.10
4	Water Street ...	13.10	7	Lord Street	28.10
10	James Street ...	13.10	10	Berlin Road.....	28.10
11	Royle Street	13.10	6	Sturgeon Court, Stanley Street	29.10
7	John Street	15.10	11	Walton Street ...	30.10
8	School Street ...	15.10	12	Gorsey Brow ...	30.10
12	Hall Street.....	15.10	1	Bacup Street ...	2.11
7	Wellington Street	16.10	15	Gorton Road ...	2.11
4	Withen's Row...	21.10	8	Brook Street W. .	4.11
5	High Bank Side .	23.10	8	Ash Street	5.11
8	Yule Street	23.10	13	Russell Street ...	10.11
2	Stewart Street...	25.10	3	Old Road	16.11
3	Baker Street	25.10	9	Bordon Road ...	12.12

Scarlet Fever.

During the year 1908, 574 cases of scarlet fever were reported in the Borough, the largest number of cases occurring during the first four and the last four months of the year, the total number of notifications reaching a maximum in November and the minimum in August.

It is difficult to account for the very remarkable prevalence of this disease during the year. It has been shared with many other towns, and it is probable that the climatic conditions were favourable to its spread, but fortunately owing perhaps to the same conditions the virulence of the disease is only slight, as shown by the case mortality. The case mortality is the number of deaths which occur in every one hundred cases of the disease, and for 1908 equals 2.4. The death-rate per thousand of the population equals .14.

With regard to the distribution of the disease, the highest number of cases occurred in Shaw Heath Ward and the lowest in St. Mary's, so that the incidence in these wards is not directly associated with the density of population, but in these two cases seems to be inversely proportional to the density, which is 41.24 persons per acre in St. Mary's, and only 22.62 in Shaw Heath.

Taking the incidence of the disease per thousand of the population, which is a more reliable index of the prevalence of the disease, the highest incidence occurs in Cale Green Ward, and from the table it will be seen that this is associated with the smallest percentage of cases removed to the hospital, viz., 22; while in two wards, viz., St. Mary's and Spring Bank, in which the incidence per thousand is lowest, viz., 2.4, the highest percentage of cases have been removed to the hospital.

These facts alone point to the great value of hospital isolation in preventing the spread of the disease, as home isolation is seldom carried out so satisfactorily as in a hospital, nor is the length of isolation sufficiently prolonged, with the result that children apparently well are allowed to go about and freely mix with others in an infectious condition, circumstances which can only be avoided by removal to an isolation hospital.

Apart from the question of isolation many factors are concerned in the spread of the disease, among which may be mentioned the density and the age constitution of the population. The age constitution is roughly indicated by the birth-rate (a low birth-rate indicating a high age constitution), and therefore on prima facie grounds the incidence of scarlet fever per thousand of the population should be lower in Cale Green than in the other wards. It shows, however, the highest incidence. Moreover, the sanitary condition of Cale Green Ward is as good, and probably better, than most other districts in the town. Such facts lend still greater support to the value of hospital isolation as a means of controlling, if not of stamping out, such a disease.

With regard to the age incidence of this disease, 369 cases occurred between the ages of 5 to 15, 133 at the ages 1 to 5; 69 were over 15 years of age, and 3 were under 1. It will thus be seen that the greatest susceptibility to the disease occurs in early adolescence, while young infants may be regarded as almost immune.

<i>Ward.</i>	<i>Number of cases of Scarlet Fever notified during the year 1908.</i>	<i>Estimated Population</i>	<i>Percentage of cases removed to Hospital.</i>	<i>Incidence of Scarlet Fever per 1,000 of the population.</i>
Lancashire Hill	24	5,248	58	4.6
Heaton Lane	24	6,405	62	3.7
Old Road.....	46	6,020	65	7.6
Portwood	60	7,688	67	7.8
St. Mary's	9	3,753	78	2.4
Vernon	26	6,133	58	4.2
Spring Bank	12	5,000	92	2.4
Hollywood	41	8,595	41	4.8
Edgeley.....	38	7,565	76	5.0
Shaw Heath	70	8,868	56	7.9
St. Thomas'	22	5,638	64	3.9
Hempshaw Lane.....	37	5,510	57	6.7
Cale Green	55	6,778	22	8.1
Heaviley	49	7,793	65	6.3
Reddish North	24	6,925	58	3.5
Reddish South	24	4,420	83	5.4
Infirmery	10			
Union Workhouse ...	2			
Union Hospital	1			

Return Cases of Scarlet Fever.

In a large epidemic there is always a greater possibility of return cases than in a smaller epidemic, and though every precaution is taken to avoid such cases, it is not always possible to exactly determine whether or not a patient is free from infection. Printed instructions are issued warning parents and others against allowing recently discharged patients to come into unnecessary intimate contact with others, and advocating other means of preventing return cases.

It must be remembered that children removed from the poorer class districts are cared for and treated under somewhat exotic conditions, and I am of opinion that special accommodation should be provided at the hospital to enable patients to be discharged under different conditions than those which at present exist. The patient is now removed from the pavilion where both acute and convalescent patients are more or less intimately associated, and discharged after having been disinfected and bathed. In cold weather it frequently happens that these patients develop a slight cold and running at the nose immediately after leaving the hospital, and thus the infection which has become dormant is again rendered active. It should be possible to remove such patients to a non-infected ward after properly bathing them and disinfecting their clothing, whence they may be discharged after something less than a week, during which time they are kept under careful observation. By this means I am convinced that the percentage of return cases after hospital treatment would be reduced to a minimum.

TABULAR STATEMENT OF RETURN CASES.

Discharged Patient						Notes as to any abnormality on Discharge	Onset and number of return case	Interval between discharge of patient and onset of return case
No. in Register	Age	Sex	Date of Discharge	Days in Hospital	Length of Illness			
591	12	F	27/12/07	38	47	—	5/1/08 (13)	9 days.
56	4	M.	13/3/08	45	50	—	} 17/3/08 (176) 17/3/08 (177)	4 „
								4 „
74	6	M.	13/3/08	38	39	—	} 19/3/08 (173) 21/3/08 (179)	6 „
								8 „
164	11	F.	24/4/08	38	71	—	4/5/08 (278)	10 „
149	10	M.	16/4/08	38	40	—	21/4/08 (249)	5 „
371	6	M.	21/7/08	41	44	Slight Chronic Adinitis	27/7/08 (449)	6 „
335	11	M.	14/7/08	49	53	—	31/7/08 (461)	17 „
362	7	M.	21/7/08	43	51	—	5/8/08 (466)	15 „
387	14	M.	24/7/08	32	42	} —	10/8/08 (477) {	17 „
388	9	M.	31/7/08	39	40			10 „
439*	7	F.	8/9/08	42	44	—	19/9/08 (539)	11 „
437	11	M.	15/9/08	50	54	—	19/9/08 (544)	4 „
439*	7	F.	8/9/08	42	44	—	23/9/08 (549)	15 „
436	10	M.	15/9/08	50	54	—	25/9/08 (556)	10 „
568	6	M.	13/11/08	39	41	—	17/11/08 (691)	4 „
627	5	M.	9/12/08	42	43	—	20/12/08 (807)	11 „

Diphtheria.

The number of cases of this disease reported during the year shows a slight decrease on the previous record, viz., 49 as against 54 during 1907. Of these 44 were notified as diphtheria and 5 as membranous croup or laryngeal diphtheria. The age incidence of the cases is somewhat higher than usual—15 cases having occurred at the ages of 1 to 5, and 28 between the ages of 5 and 15; the age of 4 years is usually the time at which a child is most susceptible to this disease, and hence commonly the age of greatest incidence of diphtheria. Generally speaking the number of cases of diphtheria occurring in the Borough is low, having regard to the number and character of the population. The death-rate from diphtheria per 1,000 of the population was .14, which is lower than the average for the last 5 years for the whole of England. But, unfortunately, the case mortality is very high. The number of deaths during the year was 14, giving a case mortality of 28.5 per cent.; the case mortality for diphtheria in the Metropolitan Asylums Board Hospitals during the year 1907 being 9 per cent. This fact points to the disease being very virulent in type, though not epidemic in character. Seven of the deaths occurred between the ages of 1 and 5, and 6 between the ages of 5 and 15.

The cases were fairly uniformly distributed throughout the Borough, the highest number of 11 occurring in Shaw Heath Ward. No cases occurred in Heaton Lane or in St. Mary's Wards.

A table indicating the sanitary circumstances in connection with houses in which cases of diphtheria occurred is appended.

There is little doubt that this disease is definitely associated with certain insanitary conditions such as privy middens, unpaved and dirty yards and passages, with tips and open sewers, and with defective drainage of all kinds. Emanations from such sources produce such lowering of resistance in an individual as to cause drain throats, diphtheria, tonsillitis, and other illnesses.

In an enquiry into the probable source of infection in the cases of diphtheria during the year 1908, I have found 38.78 per cent. of the cases associated with defective drainage, and 26.53 per cent. associated with insanitary privy middens.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF NOTIFIED CASES OF DIPHTHERIA, 1908.

YEAR 1908.

39

<i>Folio No.</i>	<i>Street.</i>	<i>Ward No.</i>	<i>Age</i>	<i>Sex</i>	<i>Closet Accommodation.</i>	<i>Paving of Yard.</i>	<i>Paving of Passages.</i>	<i>Remarks.</i>
7	Brinksway	8	7 mth.	M.	W.C. outside	—	—	Fatal.
24	Basil Street	1	5	F.	W.C. outside, dry asphalt.	Partly flagged Part earth.	Nil.	—
33	Gorton Road	15	5	F.	W.C. outside	Flagged	Paved.	—
45	Great Moor Street	14	6	F.	Privy 30-40 ft. distant.	Partly tiled, partly earth.	Earth	Fatal.
53	Turncroft Lane ..	6	10	M.	W.C. outside	Partly tiled, Partly earth.	Earth	Fatal.
68	Sun Court, Middle Hillgate	11	10	F.	W.C. outside	Partly flagged	Flagged	Fatal. Yard flagging defective. W.C. in dilapidated condition, house dirty.
99	Buxton Road	14	6	F.	Waste water w.c. outside.	Partly tiled, partly earth.	Earth	—
115	Chapel Street	10	5	M.	Privy midden, 12 feet away	Partly paved	Unpaved	—

<i>Folio No.</i>	<i>Street.</i>	<i>Ward No.</i>	<i>Age</i>	<i>Sex</i>	<i>Closet Accommodation.</i>	<i>Paving of Yard.</i>	<i>Paving of Passages.</i>	<i>Remarks.</i>
131	Liverpool Street, North Reddish.	15	5	F.	Privy adjoining ..	Flagged	Paved	Privy in insanitary condition.
146	Bolton Street, North Reddish.	15	1 $\frac{3}{4}$	F.	W.C. outside	Flagged	Paved	Fatal.
156	Dale Street South	9	3	M.	W.C. outside	Partly paved .	Paved	Played near open sewer, sewage been since taken out.
161	Melton Street, South Reddish.	16	5	F.	W.C. outside	Paved	Paved	—
165	Pink Bank Lane, North Reddish.	15	24	F.	W.C. outside	Paved	Paved	—
181	Moscow Road	10	5	M.	W.C. outside	Partly paved .	Paved	Played near open sewer; sewage now taken out
208*	Stockport Road, Cheadle Heath	8	4	F.	W.C. outside	Partly paved .	Flagged	Fatal. There is a tip at the rear of house.
242	Carnarvon Street .	12	6	M.	W.C. outside	Flagged	Flagged	—
270	Gorsey Brow	12	7	F.	Privy 12 feet away	Earth	Earth	Fatal. Drains defective. Privy dilapidated and insanitary.

<i>Folio No.</i>	<i>Street.</i>	<i>Ward No.</i>	<i>Age</i>	<i>Sex</i>	<i>Closet Accommodation.</i>	<i>Paving of Yard.</i>	<i>Paving of Passages.</i>	<i>Remarks.</i>
272	Gorsey Brow.....	12	9	M.	Privy 12 feet away	Earth	Earth	Contact with case 270.
316	Violet Street	13	5	F.	Privy 12 yds. away	Partly paved .	Earth	—
345	Edwin Street	6	4	F.	Privy 8 yds. away	Partly tiled, partly earth	Earth	Fatal.
360	Brinnington Rise .	4	39	M.	W.C. inside, privy midden outside.	Flagged	Paved	—
377	Bowden Street ...	10	6	F.	Privy 6 yds. away	Partly paved .	Flagged	Privy midden offensive and without door.
410*	Jennings Street ...	9	2½	M.	Privy 4 yds. away	Partly paved.	Flagged	Fatal. Blocked drain ; since opened.
412	Florist Street.....	10	7	M.	W.C. outside	Partly paved.	Paved	Joints of ventilating shaft open and defec- tive paving round gully. These defects were remedied.
415	Aberdeen Grove ..	10	16 Mos.	M.	Privy midden 4 yards away	Flagged	Flagged	Fatal. Drains defective and bath waste un- trapped and con- nected direct to drain. Since re-laid and de- fects remedied.

<i>Folio No.</i>	<i>Street.</i>	<i>Ward No.</i>	<i>Age</i>	<i>Sex</i>	<i>Closet Accommodation.</i>	<i>Paving of Yard.</i>	<i>Paving of Passages.</i>	<i>Remarks.</i>
423	Moscow Road East	10	14	F.	W.C. outside	Partly paved.	Earth	Open sewer in front of house. Sewage since taken out.
458	Moscow Road	10	6	M.	Do.	Do.	Paved	Do.
459	Carmichael Street	9	5	M.	W.C. outside	Partly paved	Paved	—
471	Bamford Street ..	11	14 Mos.	F.	W.C. outside	Flag and cobble.	Flagged	Fatal.
497*	Rhyl Street	3	2	F.	Privy 4 yds. away	Flag, cobble, and earth.	—	Fatal.
502	Petersburg Road .	10	3	M.	W.C. outside	Partly paved.	—	Fatal.
537	Shaw Road	13	16	F.	W.C. outside	Partly paved.	Paved	—
538	Do.	13	14	F.	Do.	Do.....	Do.....	Contact with case 537.
548	Bramhall Lane ...	13	19	F.	W.C. inside and out.	Partly paved.	Paved	—
549	Victoria Road ...	6	25	F.	W.C. outside	Partly paved, partly earth.	Earth	—
555	Crescent Road....	4	7	M.	Privy midden	Paved	—	Fatal.

<i>Folio No.</i>	<i>Street.</i>	<i>Ward No.</i>	<i>Age</i>	<i>Sex</i>	<i>Closet Accommodation.</i>	<i>Paving of Yard.</i>	<i>Paving of Passages.</i>	<i>Remarks.</i>
579	Potts Street	9	3	F.	W.C. outside	Earth	—	Large and offensive privy midden in yard. Since abolished.
591	Farmer Street . . .	1	4	F.	W.C. outside	Paved	—	—
599	Chestergate	8	20 mos.	M.	W.C. outside	Paved	Earth	—
626	Moscow Road	10	13	F.	W.C. outside	Partly paved.	Paved	Open sewer near house. Sewage since taken out.
649	Windmill Lane, North Reddish.	15	7	F.	W.C. inside	Earth	Nil	House semi-detached.
662	Harwood Street . .	3	4	M.	Privy, 11 yds. away	Partly flagged, partly earth	Nil	Defective rain water pipes, directly connected to the drains.
673	Mile End	14	—	F.	W.C. inside and out.	Flagged	—	—
702	Berlin Road	10	6	M.	W.C. outside	Partly paved.	One earth and one paved.	—

<i>Folio No.</i>	<i>Street.</i>	<i>Ward No.</i>	<i>Age</i>	<i>Sex</i>	<i>Closet Accommodation.</i>	<i>Paving of Yard.</i>	<i>Paving of Passages.</i>	<i>Remarks.</i>
738	Clayton Street ...	7	10	M.	Privy midden	Flag and cobble.	Flagged	—
804	Waterloo Road ..	5	5	F.	Pail closet	Flagged	Cobble	Fatal.
809	Athens Street	12	2	M.	W.C. outside	Partly flagged partly earth	Paved	—
834	Lowfield Road ...	10	5½	M.	W.C. outside	Partly paved..	Earth	Patient played on tip at rear of house.
839	Longshut Lane E.	11	23 mos.	F.	W.C. outside	Flag and cobble.	—	—

* Cases treated in Isolation Hospital.

Typhoid Fever.

Forty-nine cases of typhoid were reported in the Borough during 1908, as compared with 37 during 1907, and seven deaths were registered. The death-rate from typhoid was .07 per thousand of the population, the death-rate for the whole of England being .035. The case mortality for the year was 20, all the deaths occurring in cases kept at their own homes. Fourteen of the 49 cases were removed to the Isolation Hospital, and no deaths occurred among these. These cases were placed in the observation block, as it was extremely desirable that they should be removed from their homes, and no other accommodation than this was available at the hospital.

The age incidence of enteric is much higher than with scarlet fever or diphtheria, all the deaths occurring in persons over 25 years of age.

The distribution of the cases has been fairly uniform, but St. Mary's and Vernon Wards have been exempt from the disease during the year.

Of the 49 cases 26.53 per cent. were associated with insanitary privy middens, and only 8.16 per cent with defective drainage. In six cases shellfish were the probable cause of the disease, and in an enquiry in the case of two boys who had developed typhoid, it was found that they had contracted the disease after eating mussels bought from a hawker in the street. The quality of these shellfish may be judged from the fact that two quarts of the mussels were bought for 1½d.

10.2 per cent. of the cases were contacts from other cases which it was impossible to adequately isolate in their own homes, and which could not be removed to the hospital.

The annual statement relating to the association of enteric fever with certain houses provided with privy middens is here given. The large percentage of cases which have occurred during the year in midden houses is also significant, and it is probable that very great contamination of food, and more especially of milk, occurs in houses supplied with these middens through the medium of flies. Moreover, the impossibility of rendering a midden, or even a large dry ashpit, innocuous by means of disinfectants has been frequently pointed out.

In 82 houses 1 subsequent case occurred, viz. :—

In 1 house within a few days.
In 61 houses within a few weeks.
In 14 houses about 1 year later.
In 3 houses about 2 years later.
In 1 house about 3 years later.
In 2 houses about 4 years later.

In 24 houses 2 subsequent cases occurred, viz. :—

In 20 houses within a few weeks.
In 1 house about 1 year later.
In 3 houses about 2 years later.

In 7 houses 3 subsequent cases occurred, viz. :—

- In 1 house within a few days.
- In 5 houses within a few weeks.
- In 1 house about 1 year later.

In 3 houses 4 subsequent cases occurred, viz. :—

- 2 within a few weeks and 1 about 3 years later.

In 3 houses 5 subsequent cases occurred, of which

- 2 were within a few weeks, the other 4 years later.

In 1 house 7 subsequent cases occurred within a few weeks.

„	1	„	8	„	„	„	„	„	„
„	1	„	4	„	„	„	„	„	„
„	1	„	3	„	„	„	„	„	„

Small-Pox.

One case occurred during the year. A married woman, aged 32, working in a card-room at a cotton mill, became ill on the 19th of March, 1908; a rash appeared on the 21st, and on March 24th she was seen by a doctor, who notified the case as smallpox.

The patient was promptly removed to Whitehill Hospital. The husband and three children were re-vaccinated, bathed, and their clothing and bedding disinfected. The house was also disinfected. As many contacts as possible were re-vaccinated, and all were kept under continual observation until the period of incubation of the disease had elapsed. I also visited 143 persons during nightly visits to common lodging-houses. Fortunately no other cases occurred.

In connection with the case I wrote the following letter, dated 28th March, 1908, to the Local Government Board:—

“ I have the honour to inform you that a case of smallpox has arisen
“ in Stockport during the week. I have made every inquiry, and carried
“ out isolation and disinfection as promptly as possible. I have been
“ unable to trace the source of infection to any other case in the
“ country, and as the patient is a worker in a cotton mill, it is possible
“ that the infection may have been conveyed by a consignment of cotton
“ from New Orleans or Memphis, especially as in her occupation of
“ piecing cotton she occasionally moistens her fingers with saliva in
“ order to join up the threads in the early processes of the manufacture
“ from the raw material.”

Further enquiry showed that smallpox was endemic in the place from which the cotton was obtained, and at the time at which the supposed infected consignment was gathered and imported, the disease was more than usually prevalent.

Due precautions are taken that infected persons should not gather or handle the cotton at the point of export, but when smallpox is very prevalent among natives it is impossible to entirely avoid this contingency, more especially as many cases of the disease are so mild that "missed" cases are probably frequent. Under ordinary circumstances the disease is communicated by more or less intimate contact with an infected person, but there is little doubt that infected materials are a means of conveying the disease, and on account of the organic nature of raw cotton, this substance would no doubt constitute a suitable nidus for the organism of the disease, though the infection of smallpox becomes rapidly attenuated, the infected material ultimately becoming entirely non-infective. The time which elapses between the gathering of cotton and its appearance in the card-room or spinning-room would probably be sufficient to reduce the infectivity of the material to a minimum and negligible quantity, unless infection was actually introduced into the mouth of a susceptible person.

In the process of manufacture it frequently happens that strands of cotton break, and have to be pieced together by overlapping the broken ends and rolling them together with the forefinger and thumb or with the palm of the hand. Piecers are supposed to do this without moistening the hands, but I have on several occasions observed that they do so by means of saliva, introducing the thumb and forefinger to the mouth or licking the palms of the hands. It is easy to see thus how it is possible for infection to be conveyed directly to the mouth, and infected material which might be quite harmless with ordinary handling, becomes dangerous when thus introduced into the system of a susceptible individual.

I am inclined to the view that although the imported raw cotton may be handled *en masse* by a large number of people, and in more detail by winders, reelers, splicers, doublers, and doffers, the only employees who would be subject to infection in the way I have indicated would be those in the blowing-rooms, the card-rooms, or the spinning-rooms.

Fortunately it will be seen that the probability of the infection of smallpox arising from imported raw cotton is very small under ordinary circumstances, as the coincidence of several contingencies is necessary for its occurrence:—

1. Infection during gathering and importation is carefully guarded against.

2. Considerable attenuation of infectivity in any infected material occurs before it is dealt with by a piecer.

3. The probability of the strands of cotton breaking just at a point where a portion of infected material is situated is small.

4. An operative only occasionally uses the mouth as a means of facilitating the process of piecing.

5. It is necessary, for infection to occur, that the individual should be susceptible to the disease.

6. This susceptibility is rare in vaccinated persons and practically non-existent in re-vaccinated persons.

It is thus easy to see that though some thousands of operatives deal with raw cotton, some of which is slightly infective, yet, on account of the necessary coincidence of several circumstances, the risk is slight and cases are rare.

Such a possibility should, however, be guarded against.

The most certain safeguard would be re-vaccination of every individual who becomes engaged in a cotton mill. With regard to the question of moistening the hands in connection with piecing, the conditions of temperature and humidity of the workrooms are such that the skin is normally sufficiently moist to facilitate the process of piecing. Dipping the hands in a solution of glycerine and water, however, would, after wiping, ensure, on account of the hygroscopic nature of the glycerine, a moist condition, and even the occasional use of saliva, as at present, would be quite unnecessary.

Cancer.

The following list gives the deaths from cancerous disease and the parts affected :—

	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>
Mouth	2	—
Lip.....	1	—
Tongue	4	1
Throat.....	2	1
Pharynx and Œsophagus	2	1
Stomach	6	10
Intestines	1	2
Liver	1	6
Pancreas	2	1
Rectum	11	6
Breast	—	9
Ovary	—	1
Uterus	—	7
Vulva	—	1
Bladder	—	3
Other localities	—	2
Locality not stated.....	—	2
Totals.....	32	53

Tuberculosis.

Under this head two main sub-divisions are made for statistical purposes. Tuberculosis of the lungs or phthisis and other tuberculous diseases.

1. PHTHISIS.—The number of deaths from phthisis during the year was 120, giving a death-rate of 1.26 per thousand of the population. This death-rate is high compared to that of England and Wales, which for the year 1907 was 1.14. In proportion to the living the victims of phthisis are now only half as numerous as they were half a century ago. Between the decennium 1851-60 and the quinquennial period of 1902-6 there has been a fall of 70 per cent. in the mortality from this disease among persons of both sexes below the age of 25 years (Registrar-General's report, 1907). Notwithstanding the high death-rate in the Borough there is a definite tendency for this to fall, and this is shown by the present rate being 8 per cent. lower than the average death-rate during the last quinquennium, viz., 1.37.

The highest death-rate from phthisis occurred during the year in Reddish South, 1.95; Spring Bank, 1.94; and St. Mary's, 1.72; the lowest in Heaviley, 0.69; Edgeley, 0.71; and Reddish North, 0.78.

The greatest number of deaths occurred among males, viz., 65, as compared with 55 among females.

TUBERCULOSIS OF THE LUNG (INCLUDING PHTHISIS) AND OTHER FORMS OF
TUBERCULOSIS.

Year.	POPULATION.		NUMBER OF DEATHS.			
	Males.	Females. Total.	Tuberculosis of the Lung (including Phthisis). Males. Females. Total. All ages.		Other Forms of Tuberculosis. Males. Females. Total. All ages.	Children (under five). Phthisis. O.T.D.
1900	36323	41677 78000	71	62 133	27 39 66	1 42
1901	36741	42156 (1) 78897	63	55 118	18 20 38	6 27
1902	43983	50439 (2) 94422	81	72 153	30 14 44	6 31
1903	44570	51139 95709	84	62 146	36 33 69	5 38
1904	45174	51834 97008	65	45 110	34 43 77	4 48
1905	45785	52535 98320	64	58 122	42 40 82	7 55
1906	46403	53243 99646	73	53 126	26 38 64	6 40
1907	47027	53959 100986	71	52 123	30 31 61	3 43
1908	48147	54192 102339	65	55 120	45 45 90	3 65
Totals	394153	451174 845327	637	514 1151	288 303 591	41 389

(1) Census Returns. (2) Borough Extension. O.T.D.—Other Tubercular Diseases.

OTHER TUBERCULOUS DISEASES.—Ninety deaths from tuberculous disease other than phthisis occurred during the year, which include meningitis, peritonitis, and other forms. These are sub-divided as follows:—

Tuberculosis of the brain or its membranes.....	32
General tuberculosis	30
Tuberculosis of the intestines.....	23
Other forms	5

TUBERCULOSIS OF BRAIN OR MENINGES.

<i>Year.</i>	—1	1—5	5—15	15—25	25—65	65 and upwards	<i>Totals.</i>
1900	5	16	7	....	1	....	29
1901	6	14	3	....	2	....	25
1902	6	8	4	....	....	....	18
1903	5	11	8	1	1	....	26
1904	8	14	3	....	2	....	27
1905	5	18	5	....	....	....	28
1906	5	14	6	1	....	....	26
1907	3	9	1	....	1	....	14
1908	10	14	7	1	....	....	32
<i>Totals</i> ..	53	118	44	3	7	....	225

MENINGITIS.

<i>Year.</i>	—1	1—5	5—15	15—25	25—65	65 and upwards	<i>Totals.</i>
1900	10	7	2	2	1	....	22
1901	3	3	3	1	4	....	14
1902	5	7	2	....	3	....	17
1903	4	6	3	....	1	....	14
1904	4	8	3	1	1	....	17
1905	3	4	1	1	4	....	13
1906	6	6	5	1	2	1	21
1907	10	3	....	2	3	....	18
1908	1	4	....	....	2	....	7
<i>Totals</i> .	46	48	19	8	21	1	143

During the year 95 cases of consumption were voluntarily notified, the majority of these cases being paupers, as shown by the fact that 62 received treatment in the Union Hospital. This is satisfactory, because it is just sufferers of this class that should be kept under some supervision and steps taken as far as possible to prevent them spreading the infection. Simple rules are given to them as to how to avoid infecting articles in common use by their sputum and how to dispose of the sputum. Whenever a death from consumption occurs the householder receives a notice urging disinfection for the room which the deceased occupied, and also the bedding. The disinfection is in many cases done free of charge.

I submit the usual table which has been compiled in order to show localities in which deaths from consumption occur in the same house:—

List showing localities in which deaths from consumption have occurred
in the same house in succeeding years:—

<i>Situation of House.</i>	1894	1895	1896	1897	1898	1899	1900	1901	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906	1907	1908
Barratt Street	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
Beard St (House A)	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
Do. („ B)	1	..	..	..	1
Bentley Street	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Bury Street	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Clarendon Street.....	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
Ellen Street	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Grafton Street.....	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Ince Street.....	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Manchester Road :															
(House A)	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
do. („ B)	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Old Road (House A)	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Do. („ B)	1	..	..	1	..	..
Reuben Street.....	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Rowland Street.....	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
Smith St. (House A)	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Do. („ B)	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
Tatton Road South .	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..
Bridgefield Street...	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
Brown Street.....	2	..	..	..	..	..
Brunswick Street...	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Chorlton Street	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Great Egerton St. :															
(House A)	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Do. („ B)	1	..	..	..	1	..	..
Heaton Lane	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Travis Street	2	1	..	..	..	..	..
Wellington Road N.	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
Providence Street...	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..
Wyatt Street	1	1	..	..	..	..	..
Emperor Street.....	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..
Mersey Street.....	1	..	..	1	..
Adlington Square :															
(House A)	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
Do. („ B)	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..
Churchgate	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
High Bank Side :															
(House A)	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
Do. („ B)	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
High St. (House A)	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Do. („ B)	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
Tatton Street.....	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
Edwin Street.....	1	1	..	..	..	..	..
Grimshaw Street....	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Hill Street.....	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..
Newbridge Lane :	..														
(House A).	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
Do („ B).	2	..	..	..	..	..
Bann Street.....	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
Chestergate.....	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

Deaths in Cellar Dwellings.

Though, unfortunately, there are a large number of cellar dwellings remaining in the Borough, 5 have been closed during the year, and only one death has been recorded during the year as occurring in a cellar dwelling. It is satisfactory that while such dwellings continue to exist we are able to a very large extent to prevent their occupation by other than old people.

<i>Date of Death.</i>	<i>Where Died.</i>	<i>Age.</i>	<i>Sex.</i>	<i>Occupation.</i>	<i>Cause of Death.</i>
1908					
April 29	Cellar under 103, Old Road	75	F.	..	Ulceration of Stomach, Hæmorrhage.
1907.					
June 10	Cellar under 7, Garnett Street ..	50	F.	..	Syncope (Inquest).
October 25	(Infirmary) of Cellar under 11, Union Street.	47	F.	..	Suicide by poisoning (Inquest).
Dec. 27	Cellar under 28, Union Street.....	3	M.	..	Spasmodic Croup.
1906.					
Sept. 26	Cellar under 26, Union Street ..	75	F.	(See year 1903)	Senile decay, Diarrhœa
1904.					
January 23	„ 9, Chatham Street .	67	M.	Gardener	Chronic Bronchitis.
Feb. 11	„ 3, Union Street	67	M.	Army Pensioner.	Heart Failure.
June 7	„ 105, Old Road	38	F.	..	Parturition. Post Partum, and Hæmorrhage.
1903.					
January 9	„ 30, Union Street ...	66	M.	Collier (See year 1895).	Bronchitis, Cardiac Failure.
Feb. 24	„ 85, Old Road	62	F.	(2 deaths) Reeler in Cotton Mill	Found dead, Natural Causes, accel- erated by want of care and time- ly medical attention (Inquest).
May 10	„ 127, Old Road	70	F.	..	Natural Causes, Bronchitis (Inquest)
„ 26	„ 85, Old Road	69	F.	..	Bronchitis, Asthma
August 31	„ 26, Union Street ...	7m'ths	F.	(See year 1906)	Epidemic Diarrhœa
Dec. 15	„ 21, Bamford Street ..	59	F.	..	Cardiac Dropsy
1902.					
January 6	„ 9, Angel Street	55	F.	..	Apoplexy.

<i>Date of Death.</i>	<i>Where Died.</i>	<i>Age.</i>	<i>Sex.</i>	<i>Occupation.</i>	<i>Cause of Death.</i>
1902. October 2	Cellar under 13, Bamford Street ..	77	F.	..	Senility.
Nov. 6	22, Newbridge Lane.	2 m'nths	M.	..	Bronchitis, Exhaustion.
Dec. 3	49, Bamford Street..	69	F.	..	Apoplexy.
1901. May 23	28, Newbridge Lane .	4 weeks	F.	(See year 1900)	Natural Causes, probably Convulsions (Inquest).
August 21	55, Union Street ...	5 m'nths	M.	..	Marasmus.
Nov. 15	12, Union Street ...	10 m'ths	F.	..	Premature Birth.
1900. Feb. 9	141, Old Road	3 days	M.	..	Inanition.
April 4	28, Newbridge Lane .	4 days	M.	(See year 1901)	Convulsions (Inquest).
23	26, Crowther Street .	2 m'nths	M.	..	Bronchitis (Illegitimate).
June 12	25, Old Road	5 m'nths	F.	..	Ac. Bronchitis.
1899. August 13	150, Hesketh Street .	73	M.	Gen. Labourer	Senile Decay.
22	22, Brewery Street ..	7 m'nths	M.	..	Starvation (Inquest), Illegitimate.
October 12	4, Wesley Street	14 m'ths	F.	(See year 1895)	Bronchitis (Illegitimate).
1898. August 29	18, Brewery Street ..	8 m'nths	F.	..	Teething-Bronchitis.

<i>Date of Death.</i>	<i>Where Died.</i>	<i>Age.</i>	<i>Sex.</i>	<i>Occupation.</i>	<i>Cause of Death.</i>
1897. March 19	Cellar under 1, Adcroft Street . . .	76	M.	Hawker	Syncope following Bronchitis (Inquest).
April 2	55, Lancashire Hill . .	65	M.	Scavenger	Gastric Catarrh.
29	40, Union Street	1	F.	..	Dentition and Convulsions.
August 19 1896.	29, Union Street 3 m'nths		M.	..	Marasmus, Convulsions.
Jan. 3	In a cellar at Christy's Mill	62	M.	Carter	Natural Causes (Inquest).
April 8	Cellar under 145, Old Road	81	M.	Army Pensioner	Senile Decay.
25	10, Hart Street	5	M.	..	Whooping Cough.
Sept. 28	15, Union Street	60	F.	Hat trimmer	Bronchitis.
Nov. 22	4, Hart Street 5 weeks		F.	..	Bronchitis and Inflammation (Inquest).
1895. January 29	3, Angel Street 6 m'nths		M.	..	Bronchitis (Illegitimate).
April 15	12, Old Gardens St. . . 4 m'nths		M.	..	Tabes Mesenterica, Exhaustion.
20	30, Union Street 5 m'nths		F.	(See year 1903)	Marasmus.
June 26	4, Wesley Street 6 m'nths		M.	(See year 1899)	Inanition from Birth (Illegitimate).
August 8	61, Lancashire Hill . .	67	M.	Mill Operative	Right Hemiplegia, Cerebral Hæmorrhage.
October 18	30 Union Street	35	F.	(See year 1903)	Morbus Cordis.

Infantile Mortality.

The proportion which the number of deaths of infants under 1 year of age bear to every thousand children born in the same year is the infant mortality. In 1907 the infant mortality for your Borough reached the lowest on record, viz., 158. This low mortality among infants was shared by the 76 great towns and by the country as a whole, the lowest recorded infantile mortality for England and Wales, viz: 118 occurred in 1907. It was accounted for by the exceptional meteorological conditions which existed during the year, the 4ft. earth thermometer never at any time registering in your Borough more than 55°F, and it has been pointed out by Dr Ballard that the rise of diarrhœal mortality does not commence until the mean temperature recorded by this thermometer has reached 56°F.

For the year 1908 the number of deaths among infants under 1 year was 489, the infantile mortality figure being 170.9. The figure varies a great deal for different districts, and it may be regarded as a sensitive index of the sanitary condition as well as of the state of enlightenment of the mothers in any given district, for, other things being equal, a high rate indicates depravity and dirt, a low rate sanity and intelligence.

The importance of this subject can only be realised when it is known that while the general death-rate throughout the country has fallen from 22 in 1858 to 14.7 in 1908, the infant mortality or "slaughter of the innocents," as it has been called, has practically remained stationary, and as the progress of hygiene and sanitation has been followed by a parallel lowering of the death-rate of most forms of infectious disease, the constant mortality among infants seems directly to point to ignorance of mothers, and I am inclined strongly to rely on education for the enlightenment of young girls and mothers in general hygiene and the proper methods of feeding, bringing up and managing the baby. By the systematic teaching of hygiene in schools and the promulgation of practical information and knowledge by Health Departments through the medium of health visitors, and by recognised philanthropic work, great good will necessarily accrue, and it is hoped the mortality among infants may be brought to the irreducible minimum.

From the table on the opposite page will be seen the extent to which infants fall victims to certain groups of disorders, and broadly classifying them, it will be seen that three main groups of disorders account for the majority of deaths:—

1. Prematurity, atrophy and debility	151
2. Diarrhœal diseases and convulsions	153
3. Respiratory and tuberculous diseases	107

Deaths from prematurity and debility may be regarded as due to ante-natal causes, and for the most part unpreventible, death usually taking place in the first few weeks of life. Deaths from diarrhœa and convulsions occur from the fourth to the ninth month, and are mainly due to improper feeding. The respiratory and tuberculous causes increase the infant mortality at any time during the first year. It may be said that approximately 80 deaths in every 1000 births are unpreventible.

TABLE V.

COUNTY BOROUGH OF STOCKPORT.

INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1908.

DEATHS FROM STATED CAUSES IN WEEKS AND MONTHS UNDER ONE YEAR
OF AGE.

<i>Cause of Death.</i>	Under 1 Week.	1-2 Weeks.	2-3 Weeks.	3-4 Weeks.	Total under 1 month.	1-2 Months.	2-3 Months.	3-4 Months.	4-5 Months.	5-6 Months.	6-7 Months.	7-8 Months.	8-9 Months.	9-10 Months.	10-11 Months.	11-12 Months.	Total Deaths under one year
<i>All Causes :</i>																	
Certified	62	10	20	13	105	56	42	48	30	34	35	19	32	23	21	26	471
Uncertified	2	1	1	1	5	4	2	1	1	2	2	..	..	..	..	1	18
(Including Inquests.)																	
<i>Common Infectious Diseases :</i>																	
Small-pox .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Chicken-pox .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Measles .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	2	5	3	12	12
Scarlet Fever .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1
Diphtheria : Croup .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1
Whooping Cough .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	2	2	5	..	..	2	13
<i>Diarrhœal Diseases :</i>																	
Diarrhœa, all forms .....	..	..	1	3	4	12	12	21	14	10	14	1	13	10	5	6	122
Enteritis (<i>not tuberculous</i>) .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Gastritis (Gastro-intestinal), Catarrh .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
<i>Wasting Diseases :</i>																	
Premature Birth ...	37	4	6	3	50	4	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	55
Atelectasis	2	1	..	..	3	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Congenital Defects ..	4	..	1	1	6	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9
Injury at Birth	3	..	..	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Want of Breast Milk .....	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Atrophy, Debility, { Marasmus	10	2	8	2	22	22	15	8	8	3	4	2	2	2	5	3	96
<i>Tuberculous Diseases :</i>																	
Tuberculous Meningitis .....	..	..	1	..	1	..	1	..	..	2	..	1	1	2	1	1	10
Tuberculous Peritonitis : Tabes Mesenterica .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	1	2	1	1	1	..	1	1	11
Others Tuberculous Diseases .....	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	1	2	4	1	1	1	..	..	12
Erysipelas .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Syphilis .....	..	..	..	..	..	2	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Rickets .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Meningitis (<i>not tuberculous</i>) .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1
Convulsions	1	2	2	..	5	5	2	3	2	8	4	..	..	..	2	..	31
Bronchitis .....	..	..	1	1	2	3	3	4	3	3	..	3	1	..	..	2	24
Laryngitis .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Pneumonia .....	..	..	..	..	..	4	5	5	2	4	4	5	6	2	6	7	50
Suffocation, over-laying .....	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Other Causes	7	1	1	3	12	4	..	2	..	2	2	1	..	1	..	2	26
TOTALS	64	11	21	14	110	60	44	49	31	36	37	19	32	23	21	27	489

Births in the year, legitimate 1403 males, 1345 females. Total, 2748
 " " illegitimate 62 " 50 " 112 } 2860
 Nett Deaths from *all Causes at all Ages* 1894.
 Population, estimated to middle of 1908, 102,339.

TABLE V.

COUNTY BOROUGH OF STOCKPORT.

INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1908.

DEATHS FROM STATED CAUSES IN WEEKS AND MONTHS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.

Under 1 Week.	1-5 Weeks.	6-13 Weeks.	14-26 Weeks.	27-52 Weeks.	Total under 1 year.	Infants under 1 month.	1-3 Months.	3-6 Months.	6-9 Months.	9-12 Months.	12-15 Months.	15-18 Months.	18-24 Months.	24-36 Months.	36-48 Months.	48-60 Months.	60-72 Months.	72-84 Months.	84-96 Months.	96-108 Months.	108-120 Months.	120-132 Months.	132-144 Months.	144-156 Months.	156-168 Months.	168-180 Months.	180-192 Months.	192-204 Months.	204-216 Months.	216-228 Months.	228-240 Months.	240-252 Months.	252-264 Months.	264-276 Months.	276-288 Months.	288-300 Months.	300-312 Months.	312-324 Months.	324-336 Months.	336-348 Months.	348-360 Months.	360-372 Months.	372-384 Months.	384-396 Months.	396-408 Months.	408-420 Months.	420-432 Months.	432-444 Months.	444-456 Months.	456-468 Months.	468-480 Months.	480-492 Months.	492-504 Months.	504-516 Months.	516-528 Months.	528-540 Months.	540-552 Months.	552-564 Months.	564-576 Months.	576-588 Months.	588-600 Months.	600-612 Months.	612-624 Months.	624-636 Months.	636-648 Months.	648-660 Months.	660-672 Months.	672-684 Months.	684-696 Months.	696-708 Months.	708-720 Months.	720-732 Months.	732-744 Months.	744-756 Months.	756-768 Months.	768-780 Months.	780-792 Months.	792-804 Months.	804-816 Months.	816-828 Months.	828-840 Months.	840-852 Months.	852-864 Months.	864-876 Months.	876-888 Months.	888-900 Months.	900-912 Months.	912-924 Months.	924-936 Months.	936-948 Months.	948-960 Months.	960-972 Months.	972-984 Months.	984-996 Months.	996-1008 Months.	1008-1020 Months.	1020-1032 Months.	1032-1044 Months.	1044-1056 Months.	1056-1068 Months.	1068-1080 Months.	1080-1092 Months.	1092-1104 Months.	1104-1116 Months.	1116-1128 Months.	1128-1140 Months.	1140-1152 Months.	1152-1164 Months.	1164-1176 Months.	1176-1188 Months.	1188-1200 Months.	1200-1212 Months.	1212-1224 Months.	1224-1236 Months.	1236-1248 Months.	1248-1260 Months.	1260-1272 Months.	1272-1284 Months.	1284-1296 Months.	1296-1308 Months.	1308-1320 Months.	1320-1332 Months.	1332-1344 Months.	1344-1356 Months.	1356-1368 Months.	1368-1380 Months.	1380-1392 Months.	1392-1404 Months.	1404-1416 Months.	1416-1428 Months.	1428-1440 Months.	1440-1452 Months.	1452-1464 Months.	1464-1476 Months.	1476-1488 Months.	1488-1500 Months.	1500-1512 Months.	1512-1524 Months.	1524-1536 Months.	1536-1548 Months.	1548-1560 Months.	1560-1572 Months.	1572-1584 Months.	1584-1596 Months.	1596-1608 Months.	1608-1620 Months.	1620-1632 Months.	1632-1644 Months.	1644-1656 Months.	1656-1668 Months.	1668-1680 Months.	1680-1692 Months.	1692-1704 Months.	1704-1716 Months.	1716-1728 Months.	1728-1740 Months.	1740-1752 Months.	1752-1764 Months.	1764-1776 Months.	1776-1788 Months.	1788-1800 Months.	1800-1812 Months.	1812-1824 Months.	1824-1836 Months.	1836-1848 Months.	1848-1860 Months.	1860-1872 Months.	1872-1884 Months.	1884-1896 Months.	1896-1908 Months.	1908-1920 Months.	1920-1932 Months.	1932-1944 Months.	1944-1956 Months.	1956-1968 Months.	1968-1980 Months.	1980-1992 Months.	1992-2004 Months.	2004-2016 Months.	2016-2028 Months.	2028-2040 Months.	2040-2052 Months.	2052-2064 Months.	2064-2076 Months.	2076-2088 Months.	2088-2100 Months.	2100-2112 Months.	2112-2124 Months.	2124-2136 Months.	2136-2148 Months.	2148-2160 Months.	2160-2172 Months.	2172-2184 Months.	2184-2196 Months.	2196-2208 Months.	2208-2220 Months.	2220-2232 Months.	2232-2244 Months.	2244-2256 Months.	2256-2268 Months.	2268-2280 Months.	2280-2292 Months.	2292-2304 Months.	2304-2316 Months.	2316-2328 Months.	2328-2340 Months.	2340-2352 Months.	2352-2364 Months.	2364-2376 Months.	2376-2388 Months.	2388-2400 Months.	2400-2412 Months.	2412-2424 Months.	2424-2436 Months.	2436-2448 Months.	2448-2460 Months.	2460-2472 Months.	2472-2484 Months.	2484-2496 Months.	2496-2508 Months.	2508-2520 Months.	2520-2532 Months.	2532-2544 Months.	2544-2556 Months.	2556-2568 Months.	2568-2580 Months.	2580-2592 Months.	2592-2604 Months.	2604-2616 Months.	2616-2628 Months.	2628-2640 Months.	2640-2652 Months.	2652-2664 Months.	2664-2676 Months.	2676-2688 Months.	2688-2700 Months.	2700-2712 Months.	2712-2724 Months.	2724-2736 Months.	2736-2748 Months.	2748-2760 Months.	2760-2772 Months.	2772-2784 Months.	2784-2796 Months.	2796-2808 Months.	2808-2820 Months.	2820-2832 Months.	2832-2844 Months.	2844-2856 Months.	2856-2868 Months.	2868-2880 Months.	2880-2892 Months.	2892-2904 Months.	2904-2916 Months.	2916-2928 Months.	2928-2940 Months.	2940-2952 Months.	2952-2964 Months.	2964-2976 Months.	2976-2988 Months.	2988-3000 Months.	3000-3012 Months.	3012-3024 Months.	3024-3036 Months.	3036-3048 Months.	3048-3060 Months.	3060-3072 Months.	3072-3084 Months.	3084-3096 Months.	3096-3108 Months.	3108-3120 Months.	3120-3132 Months.	3132-3144 Months.	3144-3156 Months.	3156-3168 Months.	3168-3180 Months.	3180-3192 Months.	3192-3204 Months.	3204-3216 Months.	3216-3228 Months.	3228-3240 Months.	3240-3252 Months.	3252-3264 Months.	3264-3276 Months.	3276-3288 Months.	3288-3300 Months.	3300-3312 Months.	3312-3324 Months.	3324-3336 Months.	3336-3348 Months.	3348-3360 Months.	3360-3372 Months.	3372-3384 Months.	3384-3396 Months.	3396-3408 Months.	3408-3420 Months.	3420-3432 Months.	3432-3444 Months.	3444-3456 Months.	3456-3468 Months.	3468-3480 Months.	3480-3492 Months.	3492-3504 Months.	3504-3516 Months.	3516-3528 Months.	3528-3540 Months.	3540-3552 Months.	3552-3564 Months.	3564-3576 Months.	3576-3588 Months.	3588-3600 Months.	3600-3612 Months.	3612-3624 Months.	3624-3636 Months.	3636-3648 Months.	3648-3660 Months.	3660-3672 Months.	3672-3684 Months.	3684-3696 Months.	3696-3708 Months.	3708-3720 Months.	3720-3732 Months.	3732-3744 Months.	3744-3756 Months.	3756-3768 Months.	3768-3780 Months.	3780-3792 Months.	3792-3804 Months.	3804-3816 Months.	3816-3828 Months.	3828-3840 Months.	3840-3852 Months.	3852-3864 Months.	3864-3876 Months.	3876-3888 Months.	3888-3900 Months.	3900-3912 Months.	3912-3924 Months.	3924-3936 Months.	3936-3948 Months.	3948-3960 Months.	3960-3972 Months.	3972-3984 Months.	3984-3996 Months.	3996-4008 Months.	4008-4020 Months.	4020-4032 Months.	4032-4044 Months.	4044-4056 Months.	4056-4068 Months.	4068-4080 Months.	4080-4092 Months.	4092-4104 Months.	4104-4116 Months.	4116-4128 Months.	4128-4140 Months.	4140-4152 Months.	4152-4164 Months.	4164-4176 Months.	4176-4188 Months.	4188-4200 Months.	4200-4212 Months.	4212-4224 Months.	4224-4236 Months.	4236-4248 Months.	4248-4260 Months.	4260-4272 Months.	4272-4284 Months.	4284-4296 Months.	4296-4308 Months.	4308-4320 Months.	4320-4332 Months.	4332-4344 Months.	4344-4356 Months.	4356-4368 Months.	4368-4380 Months.	4380-4392 Months.	4392-4404 Months.	4404-4416 Months.	4416-4428 Months.	4428-4440 Months.	4440-4452 Months.	4452-4464 Months.	4464-4476 Months.	4476-4488 Months.	4488-4500 Months.	4500-4512 Months.	4512-4524 Months.	4524-4536 Months.	4536-4548 Months.	4548-4560 Months.	4560-4572 Months.	4572-4584 Months.	4584-4596 Months.	4596-4608 Months.	4608-4620 Months.	4620-4632 Months.	4632-4644 Months.	4644-4656 Months.	4656-4668 Months.	4668-4680 Months.	4680-4692 Months.	4692-4704 Months.	4704-4716 Months.	4716-4728 Months.	4728-4740 Months.	4740-4752 Months.	4752-4764 Months.	4764-4776 Months.	4776-4788 Months.	4788-4800 Months.	4800-4812 Months.	4812-4824 Months.	4824-4836 Months.	4836-4848 Months.	4848-4860 Months.	4860-4872 Months.	4872-4884 Months.	4884-4896 Months.	4896-4908 Months.	4908-4920 Months.	4920-4932 Months.	4932-4944 Months.	4944-4956 Months.	4956-4968 Months.	4968-4980 Months.	4980-4992 Months.	4992-5004 Months.	5004-5016 Months.	5016-5028 Months.	5028-5040 Months.	5040-5052 Months.	5052-5064 Months.	5064-5076 Months.	5076-5088 Months.	5088-5100 Months.	5100-5112 Months.	5112-5124 Months.	5124-5136 Months.	5136-5148 Months.	5148-5160 Months.	5160-5172 Months.	5172-5184 Months.	5184-5196 Months.	5196-5208 Months.	5208-5220 Months.	5220-5232 Months.	5232-5244 Months.	5244-5256 Months.	5256-5268 Months.	5268-5280 Months.	5280-5292 Months.	5292-5304 Months.	5304-5316 Months.	5316-5328 Months.	5328-5340 Months.	5340-5352 Months.	5352-5364 Months.	5364-5376 Months.	5376-5388 Months.	5388-5400 Months.	5400-5412 Months.	5412-5424 Months.	5424-5436 Months.	5436-5448 Months.	5448-5460 Months.	5460-5472 Months.	5472-5484 Months.	5484-5496 Months.	5496-5508 Months.	5508-5520 Months.	5520-5532 Months.	5532-5544 Months.	5544-5556 Months.	5556-5568 Months.	5568-5580 Months.	5580-5592 Months.	5592-5604 Months.	5604-5616 Months.	5616-5628 Months.	5628-5640 Months.	5640-5652 Months.	5652-5664 Months.	5664-5676 Months.	5676-5688 Months.	5688-5700 Months.	5700-5712 Months.	5712-5724 Months.	5724-5736 Months.	5736-5748 Months.	5748-5760 Months.	5760-5772 Months.	5772-5784 Months.	5784-5796 Months.	5796-5808 Months.	5808-5820 Months.	5820-5832 Months.	5832-5844 Months.	5844-5856 Months.	5856-5868 Months.	5868-5880 Months.	5880-5892 Months.	5892-5904 Months.	5904-5916 Months.	5916-5928 Months.	5928-5940 Months.	5940-5952 Months.	5952-5964 Months.	5964-5976 Months.	5976-5988 Months.	5988-6000 Months.	6000-6012 Months.	6012-6024 Months.	6024-6036 Months.	6036-6048 Months.	6048-6060 Months.	6060-6072 Months.	6072-6084 Months.	6084-6096 Months.	6096-6108 Months.	6108-6120 Months.	6120-6132 Months.	6132-6144 Months.	6144-6156 Months.	6156-6168 Months.	6168-6180 Months.	6180-6192 Months.	6192-6204 Months.	6204-6216 Months.	6216-6228 Months.	6228-6240 Months.	6240-6252 Months.	6252-6264 Months.	6264-6276 Months.	6276-6288 Months.	6288-6300 Months.	6300-6312 Months.	6312-6324 Months.	6324-6336 Months.	6336-6348 Months.	6348-6360 Months.	6360-6372 Months.	6372-6384 Months.	6384-6396 Months.	6396-6408 Months.	6408-6420 Months.	6420-6432 Months.	6432-6444 Months.	6444-6456 Months.	6456-6468 Months.	6468-6480 Months.	6480-6492 Months.	6492-6504 Months.	6504-6516 Months.	6516-6528 Months.	6528-6540 Months.	6540-6552 Months.	6552-6564 Months.	6564-6576 Months.	6576-6588 Months.	6588-6600 Months.	6600-6612 Months.	6612-6624 Months.	6624-6636 Months.	6636-6648 Months.	6648-6660 Months.	6660-6672 Months.	6672-6684 Months.	6684-6696 Months.	6696-6708 Months.	6708-6720 Months.	6720-6732 Months.	6732-6744 Months.	6744-6756 Months.	6756-6768 Months.	6768-6780 Months.	6780-6792 Months.	6792-6804 Months.	6804-6816 Months.	6816-6828 Months.	6828-6840 Months.	6840-6852 Months.	6852-6864 Months.	6864-6876 Months.	6876-6888 Months.	6888-6900 Months.	6900-6912 Months.	6912-6924 Months.	6924-6936 Months.	6936-6948 Months.	6948-6960 Months.	6960-6972 Months.	6972-6984 Months.	6984-6996 Months.	6996-7008 Months.	7008-7020 Months.	7020-7032 Months.	7032-7044 Months.	7044-7056 Months.	7056-7068 Months.	7068-7080 Months.	7080-7092 Months.	7092-7104 Months.	7104-7116 Months.	7116-7128 Months.	7128-7140 Months.	7140-7152 Months.	7152-7164 Months.	7164-7176 Months.	7176-7188 Months.	7188-7200 Months.	7200-7212 Months.	7212-7224 Months.	7224-7236 Months.	7236-7248 Months.	7248-7260 Months.	7260-7272 Months.	7272-7284 Months.	7284-7296 Months.	7296-7308 Months.	7308-7320 Months.	7320-7332 Months.	7332-7344 Months.	7344-7356 Months.	7356-7368 Months.	7368-7380 Months.	7380-7392 Months.	7392-7404 Months.	7404-7416 Months.	7416-7428 Months.	7428-7440 Months.	7440-7452 Months.	7452-7464 Months.	7464-7476 Months.	7476-7488 Months.	7488-7500 Months.	7500-7512 Months.	7512-7524 Months.	7524-7536 Months.	7536-7548 Months.	7548-7560 Months.	7560-7572 Months.	7572-7584 Months.	7584-7596 Months.	7596-7608 Months.	7608-7620 Months.	7620-7632 Months.	7632-7644 Months.	7644-7656 Months.	7656-7668 Months.	7668-7680 Months.	7680-7692 Months.	7692-7704 Months.	7704-7716 Months.	7716-7728 Months.	7728-7740 Months.	7740-7752 Months.	7752-7764 Months.	7764-7776 Months.	7776-7788 Months.	7788-7800 Months.	7800-7812 Months.	7812-7824 Months.	7824-7836 Months.	7836-7848 Months.	7848-7860 Months.	7860-7872 Months.	7872-7884 Months.	7884-7896 Months.	7896-7908 Months.	7908-7920 Months.	7920-7932 Months.	7932-7944 Months.	7944-7956 Months.	7956-7968 Months.	7968-7980 Months.	7980-7992 Months.	7992-8004 Months.	8004-8016 Months.	8016-8028 Months.	8028-8040 Months.	8040-8052 Months.	8052-8064 Months.	8064-8076 Months.	8076-8088 Months.	8088-8100 Months.	8100-8112 Months.	8112-8124 Months.	8124-8136 Months.	8136-8148 Months.	8148-8160 Months.	8160-8172 Months.	8172-8184 Months.	8184-8196 Months.	8196-8208 Months.	8208-8220 Months.	8220-8232 Months.	8232-8244 Months.	8244-8256 Months.	8256-8268 Months.	8268-8280 Months.	8280-8292 Months.	8292-8304 Months.	8304-8316 Months.	8316-8328 Months.	8328-8340 Months.	8340-8352 Months.	8352-8364 Months.	8364-8376 Months.	8376-8388 Months.	8388-8400 Months.	8400-8412 Months.	8412-8424 Months.	8424-8436 Months.	8436-8448 Months.	8448-8460 Months.	8460-8472 Months.	8472-8484 Months.	8484-8496 Months.	8496-8508 Months.	8508-8520 Months.	8520-8532 Months.	8532-8544 Months.	8544-8556 Months.	8556-8568 Months.	8568-8580 Months.	8580-8592 Months.	8592-8604 Months.	8604-8616 Months.	8616-8628 Months.	8628-8640 Months.	8640-8652 Months.	8652-8664 Months.	8664-8676 Months.	8676-8688 Months.	8688-8700 Months.	8700-8712 Months.	8712-8724 Months.	8724-8736 Months.	8736-8748 Months.	8748-8760 Months.	8760-8772 Months.	8772-8784 Months.	8784-8796 Months.	8796-8808 Months.	8808-8820 Months.	8820-8832 Months.	8832-8844 Months.	8844-8856 Months.	8856-8868 Months.	8868-8880 Months.	8880-8892 Months.	8892-8904 Months.	8904-8916 Months.	8916-8928 Months.	8928-8940 Months.	8940-8952 Months.	8952-8964 Months.	8964-8976 Months.	8976-8988 Months.	8988-9000 Months.	9000-9012 Months.	9012-9024 Months.	9024-9036 Months.	9036-9048 Months.	9048-9060 Months.	9060-9072 Months.	9072-9084 Months.	9084-9096 Months.	9096-9108 Months.	9108-9120 Months.	9120-9132 Months.	9132-9144 Months.	9144-9156 Months.	9156-9168 Months.	9168-9180 Months.	9180-9192 Months.	9192-9204 Months.	9204-9216 Months.	9216-9228 Months.	9228-9240 Months.	9240-9252 Months.	9252-9264 Months.	9264-9276 Months.	9276-9288 Months.	9288-9300 Months.	9300-9312 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In the appended table, No. V., all the certified causes of death are stated, and they are also classified according to age at death. It will be seen that 110, or little less than one quarter of all the deaths, occurred before the first month of life, and are mostly accounted for by prematurity and debility. While only one certificate has stated specifically that want of breast milk was the cause of death, it is more than probable that the large majority of deaths certified as due to diarrhœa and convulsions were due to this cause.

THE AFFECT OF EMPLOYMENT OF MARRIED WOMEN IN FACTORIES ON INFANTILE MORTALITY.

In April special birth enquiries were commenced in accordance with a form supplied by the Home Office, and up to the end of the year details of the births of 129 children were obtained. These enquiries were carried out by your health visitors, and though the numbers are rather small, very few births among women of this class can have been overlooked.

The following are the details of these cases:—

WORK DURING PREGNANCY CEASED BEFORE BIRTH :—

Not at all in	15 cases.
1 week before in	4 „
2 weeks „	3 „
3 weeks „	2 „
1 month „	7 „
2 months „	24 „
3 months „	34 „
4 months „	13 „
5 months „	11 „
6 months „	12 „
7 months „	4 „
	—
	129
	—

WORK RESUMED AFTER BIRTH :—

In 1 month in	14 cases.
In 2 months in	14 „
In 3 months in	10 „
In 4 months in	2 „
After 4 months in	89 „
	—
	129
	—

NUMBER OF DEATHS :—

Under 1 month	0
At 1 month	2
At 2 months	6
At 3 months	2
At 4 months	3
At 5 months	4
At 6 months	1
Over 6 months	1
	—
	19
	—

CAUSE OF DEATH :—

From diarrhoea	9 deaths.
From convulsions	3 „
From malnutrition	1 „
From pneumonia	3 „
From premature birth . . .	3 „
	—
	19
	—

It will be seen from the above figures that the majority of pregnant employees are excluded from work from one to three months before the child is expected. With regard to the time at which work is resumed, it may be said that many of the 89 included in the line “After four months” do not resume work at any time after their first child is born.

Nineteen deaths occurred among the 129 infants, giving an infantile mortality of 147.

This is not unduly high—not so high, in fact, as the general infantile mortality.

Though it is almost impossible for women who return home after working in a factory to do the household work which is necessary to maintain the cleanliness and comfort of the home, yet in many of these cases their homes are better looked after than in a large number of those of women who may be classed with the unemployable, and who will neither work nor look after their children and home. It is among these—the lowest grade—that the greatest mortality occurs, which raises the infantile death-rate.

Poverty, though an important factor, is by no means the only one which determines the condition of comfort and cleanliness of the home, and to one who visits these homes it is at once evident that families living under identical conditions as regards housing and income, exhibit the greatest difference in their living conditions and the success with which they bring up their children. Character and education determine more than poverty these conditions.

CAUSE OF DEATH.	TOTALS		Under 1		1 and under 5		5 and under 12		12 and under 25		25 and under 65		65 and upwards		WARDS.																				Deaths in outside places, including to the Borough.	INSTITUTIONS.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																														
															1. LANCASTER HILL.	2. HEATON LANE.	3. OLD RAIL.	4. FORTWOOD.	5. ST. MARY'S.	6. VERNON.	7. SPRING BARK.	8. HOLLYWOOD.	9. EDGELEY.	10. SHAW HEATH.	11. ST. THOMAS.	12. HEMSHAW LANE.	13. CALLEGREEN.	14. HEAVLEY.	15. REDDISH NORTH.	16. REDDISH SOUTH.	Totals.	Nurses' Home, Wyke Street.	Infirmary.	Union Hospital.		Union Work-house.	Isolation Hospital.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																													
XI.—DISEASES OF CIRCULATORY SYSTEM:—	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.	11.	12.	13.	14.	15.	16.	17.	18.	19.	20.	21.	22.	23.	24.	25.	26.	27.	28.	29.	30.	31.	32.	33.	34.	35.	36.	37.	38.	39.	40.	41.	42.	43.	44.	45.	46.	47.	48.	49.	50.	51.	52.	53.	54.	55.	56.	57.	58.	59.	60.	61.	62.	63.	64.	65.	66.	67.	68.	69.	70.	71.	72.	73.	74.	75.	76.	77.	78.	79.	80.	81.	82.	83.	84.	85.	86.	87.	88.	89.	90.	91.	92.	93.	94.	95.	96.	97.	98.	99.	100.	101.	102.	103.	104.	105.	106.	107.	108.	109.	110.	111.	112.	113.	114.	115.	116.	117.	118.	119.	120.	121.	122.	123.	124.	125.	126.	127.	128.	129.	130.	131.	132.	133.	134.	135.	136.	137.	138.	139.	140.	141.	142.	143.	144.	145.	146.	147.	148.	149.	150.	151.	152.	153.	154.	155.	156.	157.	158.	159.	160.	161.	162.	163.	164.	165.	166.	167.	168.	169.	170.	171.	172.	173.	174.	175.	176.	177.	178.	179.	180.	181.	182.	183.	184.	185.	186.	187.	188.	189.	190.	191.	192.	193.	194.	195.	196.	197.	198.	199.	200.	201.	202.	203.	204.	205.	206.	207.	208.	209.	210.	211.	212.	213.	214.	215.	216.	217.	218.	219.	220.	221.	222.	223.	224.	225.	226.	227.	228.	229.	230.	231.	232.	233.	234.	235.	236.	237.	238.	239.	240.	241.	242.	243.	244.	245.	246.	247.	248.	249.	250.	251.	252.	253.	254.	255.	256.	257.	258.	259.	260.	261.	262.	263.	264.	265.	266.	267.	268.	269.	270.	271.	272.	273.	274.	275.	276.	277.	278.	279.	280.	281.	282.	283.	284.	285.	286.	287.	288.	289.	290.	291.	292.	293.	294.	295.	296.	297.	298.	299.	300.	301.	302.	303.	304.	305.	306.	307.	308.	309.	310.	311.	312.	313.	314.	315.	316.	317.	318.	319.	320.	321.	322.	323.	324.	325.	326.	327.	328.	329.	330.	331.	332.	333.	334.	335.	336.	337.	338.	339.	340.	341.	342.	343.	344.	345.	346.	347.	348.	349.	350.	351.	352.	353.	354.	355.	356.	357.	358.	359.	360.	361.	362.	363.	364.	365.	366.	367.	368.	369.	370.	371.	372.	373.	374.	375.	376.	377.	378.	379.	380.	381.	382.	383.	384.	385.	386.	387.	388.	389.	390.	391.	392.	393.	394.	395.	396.	397.	398.	399.	400.	401.	402.	403.	404.	405.	406.	407.	408.	409.	410.	411.	412.	413.	414.	415.	416.	417.	418.	419.	420.	421.	422.	423.	424.	425.	426.	427.	428.	429.	430.	431.	432.	433.	434.	435.	436.	437.	438.	439.	440.	441.	442.	443.	444.	445.	446.	447.	448.	449.	450.	451.	452.	453.	454.	455.	456.	457.	458.	459.	460.	461.	462.	463.	464.	465.	466.	467.	468.	469.	470.	471.	472.	473.	474.	475.	476.	477.	478.	479.	480.	481.	482.	483.	484.	485.	486.	487.	488.	489.	490.	491.	492.	493.	494.	495.	496.	497.	498.	499.	500.	501.	502.	503.	504.	505.	506.	507.	508.	509.	510.	511.	512.	513.	514.	515.	516.	517.	518.	519.	520.	521.	522.	523.	524.	525.	526.	527.	528.	529.	530.	531.	532.	533.	534.	535.	536.	537.	538.	539.	540.	541.	542.	543.	544.	545.	546.	547.	548.	549.	550.	551.	552.	553.	554.	555.	556.	557.	558.	559.	560.	561.	562.	563.	564.	565.	566.	567.	568.	569.	570.	571.	572.	573.	574.	575.	576.	577.	578.	579.	580.	581.	582.	583.	584.	585.	586.	587.	588.	589.	590.	591.	592.	593.	594.	595.	596.	597.	598.	599.	600.	601.	602.	603.	604.	605.	606.	607.	608.	609.	610.	611.	612.	613.	614.	615.	616.	617.	618.	619.	620.	621.	622.	623.	624.	625.	626.	627.	628.	629.	630.	631.	632.	633.	634.	635.	636.	637.	638.	639.	640.	641.	642.	643.	644.	645.	646.	647.	648.	649.	650.	651.	652.	653.	654.	655.	656.	657.	658.	659.	660.	661.	662.	663.	664.	665.	666.	667.	668.	669.	670.	671.	672.	673.	674.	675.	676.	677.	678.	679.	680.	681.	682.	683.	684.	685.	686.	687.	688.	689.	690.	691.	692.	693.	694.	695.	696.	697.	698.	699.	700.	701.	702.	703.	704.	705.	706.	707.	708.	709.	710.	711.	712.	713.	714.	715.	716.	717.	718.	719.	720.	721.	722.	723.	724.	725.	726.	727.	728.	729.	730.	731.	732.	733.	734.	735.	736.	737.	738.	739.	740.	741.	742.	743.	744.	745.	746.	747.	748.	749.	750.	751.	752.	753.	754.	755.	756.	757.	758.	759.	760.	761.	762.	763.	764.	765.	766.	767.	768.	769.	770.	771.	772.	773.	774.	775.	776.	777.	778.	779.	780.	781.	782.	783.	784.	785.	786.	787.	788.	789.	790.	791.	792.	793.	794.	795.	796.	797.	798.	799.	800.	801.	802.	803.	804.	805.	806.	807.	808.	809.	810.	811.	812.	813.	814.	815.	816.	817.	818.	819.	820.	821.	822.	823.	824.	825.	826.	827.	828.	829.	830.	831.	832.	833.	834.	835.	836.	837.	838.	839.	840.	841.	842.	843.	844.	845.	846.	847.	848.	849.	850.	851.	852.	853.	854.	855.	856.	857.	858.	859.	860.	861.	862.	863.	864.	865.	866.	867.	868.	869.	870.	871.	872.	873.	874.	875.	876.	877.	878.	879.	880.	881.	882.	883.	884.	885.	886.	887.	888.	889.	890.	891.	892.	893.	894.	895.	896.	897.	898.	899.	900.	901.	902.	903.	904.	905.	906.	907.	908.	909.	910.	911.	912.	913.	914.	915.	916.	917.	918.	919.	920.	921.	922.	923.	924.	925.	926.	927.	928.	929.	930.	931.	932.	933.	934.	935.	936.	937.	938.	939.	940.	941.	942.	943.	944.	945.	946.	947.	948.	949.	950.	951.	952.	953.	954.	955.	956.	957.	958.	959.	960.	961.	962.	963.	964.	965.	966.	967.	968.	969.	970.	971.	972.	973.	974.	975.	976.	977.	978.	979.	980.	981.	982.	983.	984.	985.	986.	987.	988.	989.	990.	991.	992.	993.	994.	995.	996.	997.	998.	999.	1000.	1001.	1002.	1003.	1004.	1005.	1006.	1007.	1008.	1009.	1010.	1011.	1012.	1013.	1014.	1015.	1016.	1017.	1018.	1019.	1020.	1021.	1022.	1023.	1024.	1025.	1026.	1027.	1028.	1029.	1030.	1031.	1032.	1033.	1034.	1035.	1036.	1037.	1038.	1039.	1040.	1041.	1042.	1043.	1044.	1045.	1046.	1047.	1048.	1049.	1050.	1051.	1052.	1053.	1054.	1055.	1056.	1057.	1058.	1059.	1060.	1061.	1062.	1063.	1064.	1065.	1066.	1067.	1068.	1069.	1070.	1071.	1072.	1073.	1074.	1075.	1076.	1077.	1078.	1079.	1080.	1081.	1082.	1083.	1084.	1085.	1086.	1087.	1088.	1089.	1090.	1091.	1092.	1093.	1094.	1095.	1096.	1097.	1098.	1099.	1100.	1101.	1102.	1103.	1104.	1105.	1106.	1107.	1108.	1109.	1110.	1111.	1112.	1113.	1114.	1115.	1116.	1117.	1118.	1119.	1120.	1121.	1122.	1123.	1124.	1125.	1126.	1127.	1128.	1129.	1130.	1131.	1132.	1133.	1134.	1135.	1136.	1137.	1138.	1139.	1140.	1141.	1142.	1143.	1144.	1145.	1146.	1147.	1148.	1149.	1150.	1151.	1152.	1153.	1154.	1155.	1156.	1157.	1158.	1159.	1160.	1161.	1162.	1163.	1164.	1165.	1166.	1167.	1168.	1169.	1170.	1171.	1172.	1173.	1174.	1175.	1176.	1177.	1178.	1179.	1180.	1181.	1182.	1183.	1184.	1185.	1186.	1187.	1188.	1189.	1190.	1191.	1192.	1193.	1194.	1195.	1196.	1197.	1198.	1199.	1200.	1201.	1202.	1203.	1204.	1205.	1206.	1207.	1208.	1209.	1210.	1211.	1212.	1213.	1214.	1215.	1216.	1217.	1218.	1219.	1220.	1221.	1222.	1223.	1224.	1225.	1226.	1227.	1228.	1229.	1230.	1231.	1232.	1233.	1234.	1235.	1236.	1237.	1238.	1239.	1240.	1241.	1242.	1243.	1244.	1245.	1246.	1247.	1248.	1249.	1250.	1251.	1252.	1253.	1254.	1255.	1256.	1257.	1258.	1259.	1260.	1261.	1262.	1263.	1264.	1265.	1266.	1267.	1268.	1269.	1270.	1271.	1272.	1273.	1274.	1275.	1276.	1277.	1278.	1279.	1280.	1281.	1282.	1283.	1284.	1285.	1286.	1287.	1288.	1289.	1290.	1291.	1292.	1293.	1294.	1295.	1296.	1297.	1298.	1299.	1300.	1301.	1302.	1303.	1304.	1305.	1306.	1307.	1308.	1309.	1310.	1311.	1312.	1313.	1314.	1315.	1316.	1317.	1318.	1319.	1320.	1321.	1322.	1323.	1324.	1325.	1326.	1327.	1328.	1329.	1330.	1331.	1332.	1333.	1334.	1335.	1336.	1337.	1338.	1339.	1340.	1341.	1342.	1343.	1344.	1345.	1346.	1347.	1348.	1349.	1350.	1351.	1352.	1353.	1354.	1355.	1356.	1357.	1358.	1359.	1360.	1361.	1362.	1363.	1364.	1365.	1366.	1367.	1368.	1369.	1370.	1371.	1372.	1373.	1374.	1375.	1376.	1377.	1378.	1379.	1380.	1381.	1382.	1383.	1384.	1385.	1386.	1387.	1388.	1389.	1390.	1391.	1392.	1393.	1394.	1395.	1396.	1397.	1398.	1399.	1400.	1401.	1402.	1403.	1404.	1405.	1406.	1407.	1408.	1409.	1410.	1411.	1412.	1413.	1414.	1415.	1416.	1417.	1418.	1419.	1420.	1421.	1422.	1423.	1424.	1425.	1426.	1427.	1428.	1429.	1430.	1431.	1432.	1433.	1434.	1435.	1436.	1437.	1438.	1439.	1440.	1441.	1442.	1443.	

PART II.

Departmental.

District Inspectors' Work.

The work of the District Inspectors has been carried out in a very satisfactory manner during the year. It is desirable that the work of the department should, as far as possible, be done without recourse to legal procedure, and it is very satisfactory to record the large amount of work that has been carried out by your Inspectors.

On account of the quantity of old property in the Borough, much of which consists of back to back houses in a very insanitary condition, constant supervision by the District Inspectors is required, and great difficulty is encountered in some instances in getting nuisances and defects carried out in connection with such property. The number of special complaints received was not so great as during the previous year. The number of special inspections made of dwelling-houses during the year was 1,377, which is 400 more than in 1907. Many of these houses have been cleansed, papered, or lime-washed, and it is in this direction of house inspection that much good can be done by the enforcement of cleanliness and home sanitation. Large numbers of courtyards and common passages require constant inspection, and many of these have been paved or repaired and properly drained. The cleansing of common passages is as constant a source of trouble, as it is difficult to impress upon the owners of property abutting on the passages their responsibilities in this connection, and it frequently happens that the gullies become blocked and the passage remains flooded because no one will accept the responsibility; hence it is advisable that some uniform system should be adopted for keeping these passages in a sanitary condition.

The work of the Inspectors in connection with the inquiries into infectious diseases and removal of cases to the hospital has been unusually heavy, 835 notifiable diseases having been dealt with during the year, and 620 visits made to cases isolated at home. Six hundred and forty-five houses and 22 schools, or other public institutions, have been disinfected.

Summary of Work done by District Inspectors, 1908.

	No. 1 Dist.	No. 2 Dist.	No. 3 Dist.	No. 4 Dist.	Total
I.—SPECIAL COMPLAINTS RECEIVED	24	35	20	48	127
II.—INSPECTIONS MADE.					
Dwelling-houses	358	347	296	376	1377
Cellar Dwellings	29	19	—	7	55
Houses let in Lodgings	—	—	—	24	24
Male Outworkers	—	3	2	8	13
Courts and Yards	623	341	226	365	1555
Privy Middens	997	612	530	641	2780
Drainage	492	562	847	1017	2918
Water Courses	4	—	31	15	50
Miscellaneous	264	288	435	478	1465
III.—INFECTIOUS DISEASE.					
Cases inquired into	167	195	260	213	835
Cases removed to Hospital	83	102	103	72	360
Houses disinfected	124	143	229	149	645
Schools and other Public Institutions Disinfected	3	8	6	5	22
Re-visits to cases isolated at home	128	97	288	107	620
IV.—PRIVIES, WATER CLOSETS, &c.					
Privies Repaired	4	6	8	2	20
New Dustbins provided	8	30	9	10	57
Dry Ashpits Abolished	—	18	—	—	18
V.—MISCELLANEOUS.					
Water-courses cleansed, etc.	1	—	2	—	3
Houses Closed	—	3	5	—	8
Cellars Closed	2	2	—	1	5
Houses Cleansed, Papered, or Lime- washed	80	12	172	167	431
Urinals Re-constructed, etc.	1	1	1	—	3
Overcrowding of Houses abated	—	—	1	1	2
Houses Repaired	31	3	12	10	56
Yards, Courts or Passages paved or re- paired	31	80	175	87	373
Yards, Courts or Passages drained	15	55	171	77	318
Accumulations Removed	5	9	39	37	90
Manure Pits provided or repaired	2	2	—	1	5
Animals Improperly kept—removed	16	5	15	17	53
House Drainage tested	16	10	19	28	73
House Drainage Repaired or Recon- structed	161	140	215	121	637
Notices (informal) Served	120	126	136	147	529

Number and list of statutory notices served during the year in the respective districts :—

<i>Notice.</i>	<i>Dist. No. 1.</i>	<i>Dist. No. 2.</i>	<i>Dist. No. 3.</i>	<i>Dist. No. 4.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Section 36, Public Health Act, 1875 ..	7	23	3	1	34
Section 46, do., do.	—	1	—	—	1
Section 73, do., do.	—	2	—	1	3
Section 94, do., do.	2	12	—	—	14
Section 25, Stockport Corporation Act, 1905	3	7	1	—	11
Section 58, do., do.	—	4	1	—	5
Number of conversions executed by Borough Surveyor's Department on non-compliance of notice under Section 36	9	2	—	—	11
Number of houses, &c., drained by Borough Surveyor's Department on non-compliance of notice under Section 58	—	5	—	—	5
Totals.....	21	56	5	2	84

Conversion of Privy Middens.

That the mediæval privy midden, suitable though under certain circumstances it may be in a remote and thinly-populated rural district, should exist still in a large and densely-populated manufacturing town, is in itself a strong indication that very much has yet to be done in ordinary sanitation towards attaining the best conditions for the health of the people.

From the table here given it will be seen that the Department is steadily progressing in the work of abolition of these blots on town sanitation. Four hundred and twenty privies have been converted into water closets during the year, as compared with 321 in 1907, and the number of privy middens which have been abolished is 185, as compared

with 72 in 1907. I have strongly urged that when a conversion is carried out the midden should be abolished and galvanised-iron dust-bins, with a suitable cover should be substituted. To convert the privy into a water closet and to leave the midden, even in a modified condition to be used as a so-called dry ashpit, is in many cases to leave the matter in *statu quo* as far as improvement in sanitation is concerned. These ashpits are used for all kinds of wet as well as dry refuse, and are often as great a nuisance and as dangerous to health as they were before the conversion. The proximity of such pits of filth to dwelling-houses is fraught with the greatest danger to the occupants, especially infants, both directly and by food contamination, through the agency of flies. One often sees cats feeding from refuse which has been thrown into these middens and immediately going into one of the dwellings, where it is fondled by the children.

CONVERSIONS AND ADDITIONAL WATER-CLOSETS
PROVIDED DURING 1908.

<i>District.</i>	<i>Privies converted to W.C.'s.</i>	<i>Additional W.C.'s provided.</i>	<i>Privy middens abolished.</i>	<i>Privy middens converted to dry ashpits.</i>	<i>Dust-bins provided where middens abolished.</i>
No. 1	97	10	49	4	65
No. 2	121	27	45	7	113
No. 3	151	16	60	29	104
No. 4	51	4	31	—	46
Total	420	57	185	40	328

Number of houses provided with	F.W.C.	11,800 approx.
“ “ “	W.W.C.	1,000 “
“ “ “	Pails	550 “
“ “ “	P.M. Privy Ashpits or privies	8,300 “

Housing of the Working Classes Acts.

During the year 14 dwellings were dealt with in respect of which representations had been made under the above Acts as follows :—

1, 2, 3, 4, and 5, Crossley’s Court, Castle Street, Closed on letter from M.O.H.

44 and 46, Hesketh Street, and 95, Old Road.	Through ventilation provided ; sculleries built ; and one single house demolished, at the recommendation of M.O.H.
110, Hesketh Street, and 1, Goodwin's Court.	These were back-to-back houses which have been converted into one through house at the request of M.O.H.
1, Crown Court, Royle Street.	Altered and cleansed at the request of M.O.H.
1, 2, and 3, Pownall Place, Crowther Street.	Closed on letter from M.O.H.

It is satisfactory to record that in all the above cases no legal precedence has been necessary in order to get the recommendations which were made properly carried out. While it is desirable to convert into through houses a large number of back-to-back houses in the Borough it is important to remember that many of these houses are suitable for the accommodation of aged couples or single old people, and it has always been the endeavour of the Department to prevent such single houses or cellar dwellings from being occupied by young people or children. There is very much work to be done to improve the sanitary condition of old property in the Borough, and it is very desirable that the Housing Committee should meet at regular intervals at least once a month in order to carry through the large amount of work which they have in hand.

Female Sanitary Inspectors' Work.

The duties which devolve on the Health Department under the Notification of Births Act, the Midwives Act, the increasing employment of female labour, and in many other directions, point to the increasing importance as well as the increasing number of the duties of the Female Sanitary Inspector, acting under the direction of the Medical Officer of Health.

These duties are as follows :—

(1) To promptly visit all houses where births have been notified according to the Notification of Births Act, except in the cases where it is stated by the Medical Man that co-operation of this Department is not needed. At least one re-visit should be made in every case within the first six months of infant life, and in many cases where through ignorance or negligence the child is not being properly cared for more visits are extremely desirable. The advice given by the Health Visitors is of a practical nature, and is on the lines laid down in a pamphlet on " How to Feed and Manage the Baby " issued by this Department.

(2) To inquire into and take the necessary steps to remedy the sanitary conditions, especially personal and domestic cleanliness in houses where children under 2 years have died, and to make special inquiries into deaths from infantile diarrhoea.

- (3) To make inquiries into every notified case of puerperal fever.
- (4) To supervise under the direction of the Medical Officer of Health midwives and midwifery nurses, together with their equipment, and after a case of puerperal fever to insist on personal disinfection and to instruct them not to attend another patient without the permission obtained from the Medical Officer of Health, and in these cases to see that the midwives' clothing is boiled or disinfected, and that instruments, etc., are properly sterilised.
- (5) To visit the homes of school-children reported to be suffering from the non-notifiable infectious diseases, to advise the parents in accordance with the leaflets of instructions prepared for each disease, and to fill up the cards provided for the purpose.
- (6) To visit women outworkers' premises.
- (7) To visit factories where sanitary defects have been reported in the female departments by H.M. Inspector of Factories.
- (8) To assist in the teaching of infant hygiene in the public elementary schools.
- (9) To keep daily and permanent records of all work done.

FEMALE SANITARY INSPECTORS' SUMMARY OF WORK.

	1906.		1907.		1908.
Visits	3629	..	4185	..	6030
Re-visits	435	..	273	..	477
Detailed Inspections	326	..	278	..	310
Repairs	11	..	8	..	—
Non-notifiable Infectious Diseases.....	1644	..	1667	..	2861
Informal Notices	23	..	30	..	10
Reported to District Inspectors	21	..	12	..	12
Schools.....	161	..	140	..	86
Midwives	201	..	186	..	358
Outworkers	172	..	223	..	196
Lectures.....	57	..	60	..	21
Overcrowding abated	23	..	14	..	5
Houses cleansed.....	140	..	96	..	76
Births.....	1073	..	1846	..	2218
Deaths from Diarrhœa	142	..	42	..	98
Accumulations removed	14	..	—	..	—
Workshops	—	..	8	..	11

It will be seen from the above table that the duties of the Health Visitors have increased considerably during the past three years, and without any increase of staff are practically doubled. I would lay stress on the fact that only about 15 per cent. of births in slum districts have been able to be visited more than once, and as the greatest good can be done both in the promotion of cleanliness in these homes, and in the prevention of infantile mortality, it is extremely desirable that at least one re-visitation should have been made in the 2,218 cases visited this year.

I cannot omit to express my appreciation of the work which Mrs. Forster and Miss Jones have done during the year.

Births Visited.

NATURAL VERSUS ARTIFICIAL FEEDING.

One of the most important duties of the Female Sanitary Inspectors consists of visiting all houses at which births have been recently reported, and to carry to the mother specific instructions which are laid down in a card on "How to Feed and Manage the Baby," issued by the Department. In these instructions the importance of breast-feeding is very strongly insisted upon, and directions are given as to cleanliness, sleep, fresh air, clothing, preparation for artificial feeding, and weaning, upon all of which the health of the baby depends.

During the year 2,218 houses in which births had recently occurred were visited. Of these 60 had died before they were visited. Of the remaining 2,158 the following figures were obtained :—

1908.

	<i>Healthy.</i>	<i>Delicate.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Breast-fed	1827 or 98.0 % ..	38 or 2.0 % ..	1865
Partially breast-fed	85 or 80.2 % ..	21 or 19.8 % ..	106
Artificially fed	89 or 47.6 % ..	98 or 52.4 % ..	187

It is very satisfactory that the early Notification of Births Act which was adopted in your Borough and came into force on the 23rd March, 1908, has enabled the general visitation to these births to be carried out at a much earlier period in the life of the child than has hitherto been possible. This is evidenced by the fact that only 60 deaths occurred before visitation as compared to 134 in the year 1907; those early deaths being mainly due to premature birth, injury at birth, and congenital defects.

Comparing the figures with the previous year it will be seen that a much larger proportion of infants have been entirely breast-fed, namely 85 per cent. of the total births visited as compared with 71 per cent. in the previous year. The table appended shows very markedly the effect of breast-feeding as compared to the partially breast-fed and artificially fed; of those entirely breast-fed 98 per cent. were healthy, of the partially breast-fed 80 per cent., and of the artificially fed only 47 per cent. or less than half. The percentage of healthy and delicate children in these three classes of feeding is practically the same as that during the year 1907, and there is no question whatever that a large number of deaths from diarrhoea are directly associated with artificial and improper feeding, while other diseases which are common to children are indirectly associated with this, in so far as it tends to weaken the constitution and resistance of the child.

	BREAST-FED.		PARTIALLY BREAST-FED.		ARTIFICIALLY-FED.	
	HEALTHY.	.. DELICATE.	HEALTHY.	.. DELICATE.	HEALTHY.	.. DELICATE.
1903	646 or 93.2%	.. 47 or 6.8% 693.	43 or 69.3%	.. 19 or 30.7% 62.	112 or 43.9%	.. 143 or 56.1% 255.
1904	957 or 98.1%	.. 20 or 2.0% 977.	57 or 71.25%	.. 23 or 28.75% 80.	115 or 31.68%	.. 248 or 68.32% 363.
1905	887 or 98.2%	.. 16 or 1.8% 903.	67 or 79.8%	.. 17 or 20.2% 84.	108 or 48.2%	.. 116 or 51.8% 224.
1906	640 or 98.6%	.. 13 or 1.4% 653.	57 or 59.1%	.. 14 or 40.9% 71.	89 or 45.6%	.. 106 or 54.4% 195.
1907	1200 or 98.6%	.. 16 or 1.4% 1216.	142 or 81.1%	.. 33 or 18.9% 175.	158 or 48.9%	.. 165 or 51.1% 323.
1908	1827 or 98.0%	.. 38 or 2.0% 1865.	85 or 80.2%	.. 21 or 19.8% 106.	89 or 47.6%	.. 98 or 52.4% 187.
TOTAL for the six years	6157 or 97.6%	.. 150 or 2.4% 6307.	451 or 78.0%	.. 127 or 22.0% 578.	671 or 43.4%	.. 876 or 56.6% 1547.

I append a table of the work done by Mrs. Forster and Miss Jones respectively during the year :—

	<i>Mrs. Forster.</i>		<i>Miss Jones.</i>		<i>Total.</i>
Inspections	79	..	231	..	310
Visits	3148	..	2882	..	6030
Infectious diseases.....	1279	..	1582	..	2861
Informal notices	6	..	4	..	10
Reported to Inspectors	4	..	8	..	12
Schools.....	58	..	28	..	86
Workshops	8	..	3	..	11
Midwives	231	..	127	..	358
Out-workers	112	..	84	..	196
Lectures.....	12	..	9	..	21
Overcrowding abated	3	..	2	..	5
Cleansed houses	65	..	11	..	76
Births.....	1112	..	1106	..	2218
Deaths from Diarrhœa	38	..	60	..	98
Re-visits	337	..	140	..	477

The Notification of Births Act, 1907.

This is an adoptive Act, and the Local Government Board fixed the 23rd day of March, 1908, as the date on which the Town Council's resolution of adoption of the Act should come into operation. The following are the provisions for early notification of births contained in the Act:—

- (1) In the case of every child born in an area in which this Act is adopted it shall be the duty of the father of the child, if he is actually residing in the house where the birth takes place at the time of its occurrence, and of any person in attendance upon the mother at the time of, or within six hours after, the birth, to give notice in writing of the birth to the Medical Officer of Health of the district in which the child is born, in manner provided by this section.
- (2) Notice under this section shall be given by posting a prepaid letter or postcard addressed to the Medical Officer of Health at his office or residence, giving the necessary information of the birth within thirty-six hours after the birth, or by delivering a written notice of the birth at the office or residence of the Medical Officer within the same time; and the local authority shall supply without charge addressed and stamped postcards, containing the form of notice to any Medical Practitioner or Midwife residing or practising in their area, who applies for the same.
- (3) Any person who fails to give notice of a birth in accordance with this section shall be liable on summary conviction to a penalty not exceeding twenty shillings; provided that a person shall not be liable to a penalty under this provision if he satisfies the Court that he had reasonable grounds to believe that notice had been duly given by some other person.

- (4) The notification required to be made under this Act shall be in addition to and not in substitution for the requirements of any Act relating to the registration of births; and any registrar of births and deaths whose sub-district or any part thereof is situate within any area in which this Act is adopted shall at all reasonable times have access to notices of births received by the Medical Officer of Health under this Act, or to any book in which those notices may be recorded, for the purpose of obtaining information concerning births which may have occurred in his sub-district.
- (5) This section shall apply to any child which has issued forth from its mother after the expiration of the twenty-eighth week of pregnancy, whether alive or dead.

In order to differentiate the cases which are attended by medical men from those attended by midwives coloured stamped addressed cards are sent out, blue cards to medical men and green cards to midwives. In those cases attended by medical men, if the co-operation of the Health Department in the visitation by a health visitor is required, they fill in the card accordingly. In the midwives cards the question relating to co-operation by the Health Department is omitted, and cases attended by midwives are, therefore, all under the supervision of this department as a matter of routine.

The object of this Act is to enable the Health Department to give help and advice in suitable cases, where a birth has occurred, at a time when it is most necessary, that is to say, within the first few days of the child's life. Under the Registration Act the birth had to be registered by the parents within 42 days of such birth, and by an arrangement with the District Registrars weekly returns of registered births are obtained by the department. Under such a regime it often happened that seven weeks elapsed before information of a birth reached us, and unfortunately in many cases this arrived simultaneously with information as to the child's death. Notification under this Act is in addition to, and not in substitution for, the ordinary registration, so that the returns of the District Registrars are available as a means of detecting defaults of notification under the new Act, and thus forms a valuable check on uncertified or unregistered women acting as midwives. A few cases of this kind have been discovered during the year, and warning notices have prevented their recurrence.

The general tendency of the new Act is towards notification by the parent, and this is the case in the majority of births attended by medical men, but in those cases attended by midwives I have as far as possible insisted upon notification by the midwife for the reasons stated above.

The administration of this Act has involved a large amount of work in the department during the year.

Number of births notified under this Act from March 23rd to the end of 1908:—

By midwives	1,345
„ medical practitioners	248
„ other persons in attendance	565
Number of cases notified late	32
Number of cases not notified.....	56

In every case of late notification and non-notification letters have been written to the person making default, and an explanation received. Since the Act has become more generally known little trouble has occurred in obtaining prompt notification of every birth.

Midwives Act, 1902.

The duties of the Local Supervising Authority in connection with this Act are as follows:—

To exercise general supervision over all midwives practising within its area.

To systematically inspect every midwife's appliances and case book.

To investigate their mode of practice, and see that they understand and conform to the rules of the Central Midwives' Board.

To investigate charges of malpractices, negligence, or misconduct on the part of a midwife.

To suspend any midwife when necessary for the prevention of the spread of infection.

To report to the Central Midwives' Board the name of any midwife convicted of an offence.

During the month of January in each year to supply the Central Midwives' Board with the names and addresses of all midwives registered during the preceding year.

To keep a current copy of the roll of midwives accessible at all reasonable times for public inspection.

To report to the Central Midwives' Board the death or changes of addresses of any midwife within its area.

The number of midwives who gave notice of their intention to practice within the Borough during 1908 was 69, including 1 at the Workhouse and 3 at the Union Hospital. Two live outside the Borough, and practice within the Borough.

Their qualifications to practice are as follows:—

Possessing certificates from the Obstetrical Society of London...	8
Possessing certificates from a recognised hospital.....	12
Having passed the examination of the Central Midwives' Board	7
Enrolled by virtue of having been in bona-fide practice as midwives a year prior to the passing of the Act.....	42
Total.....	69

The extent of practice by midwives in the Borough may be seen from the following numbers:—

Number of cases attended by midwives alone.....	1,721
Number of cases attended by midwife together with a doctor	543

Two midwives have attended alone more than 100 cases each, and seven have attended more than 100 cases each, in some of which a medical man has been in attendance.

Six uncertified women were found to have attended cases without a doctor, and cautionary letters were sent or interviews demanded. One of these has since obtained the necessary certificate, and been admitted to the roll. No cases have since been taken by the other five women.

Seven cases of puerperal fever occurred in the practice of midwives. Their clothes and appliances were disinfected, and the midwives themselves bathed, after which they were allowed to resume their work.

Every midwife has been visited during the year at least on one occasion, and an inspection made of her appliances and mode of practice. It is satisfactory that the number of properly trained women is increasing, and that the older midwives are ceasing to practice. Many of the latter are extremely ignorant, some unable to keep their own case books or write their names. Such women not infrequently resort to obsolete and dangerous practices, and one of them I discovered was in the habit of thoroughly squeezing the baby's head at each visit in order to close the fontanelles.

Factory and Workshop Act, 1901.

During the year 60 visits have been paid to factories by Inspector Billingham for the purpose of ascertaining whether the requirements of the Sanitary Accommodation Order were being satisfactorily complied with. The general condition of accommodation in this respect in the factories within the Borough are satisfactory, and give little cause for complaint.

In four cases alterations were required, and these were carried out without difficulty.

In two cases arrangements were made for proper lighting and ventilation according to suggestions.

Doors were put on the female conveniences at one factory.

A block of six water-closets were erected in lieu of old privy middens in one case, and two water-closets replaced one old privy in another.

Within the Borough there are 637 workshops and workplaces. These have been visited during the year, 1,243 visits having been made with a view to maintaining a satisfactory condition of the premises with regard to cleanliness, ventilation, drainage, limewashing, &c. Many suggestions made have been carried out promptly without recourse to statutory proceedings.

Six notices under Section 5 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, from H.M. Inspector of Factories:—

- Factory.....Only one w.c. for both sexes.
- Factory.....No closet accommodation.
- Workshop.....Limewashing required.
- Workshop.....Limewashing required.
- Workshop.....Nuisance from ashpit next door.
- Workshop.....Coffin workroom requires limewashing.

These notices were at once attended to, and the required work carried out.

The following is a list of the Workshops in the Borough :—

Coopers	4	Cyclemakers	3
Dressmakers	140	Lathcutters	1
Milliners.....	39	Hat body makers.....	14
Boxmakers	3	Cabinet makers	21
Shirtmakers	9	Straw hat maker	1
Tailors	57	Blindmakers	7
Paper bag makers.....	4	Organ builders	1
Shoemakers	61	Feather curlers	2
Cloggers	19	Printers.....	13
Tinplate workers	12	Curriers	3
Blacksmiths	26	Rope makers	5
Brushmakers	3	Handloom weavers	11
Coachmakers.....	3	Bakers and confectioners ...	88
Saddlers	14	Dyers and cleaners	3
Joiners	39	Restaurants	11
Waste dealers.....	6		—
Wheelwrights	8		637
Filecutters	2		—
Skipmakers	4		

In the following table the details of the work done in the inspection of factories and workshops are set out :—

1.—INSPECTION.

<i>Premises.</i>	<i>No. of Inspections</i>	<i>Written Notices.</i>
Factories (including factory laundries).....	60	—
Workshops (including workshop laundries)	1243	—
Workplaces	—	—
Total	1303	—

2.—DEFECTS.

NUISANCES UNDER PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS.

	<i>No. of Defects. Found.</i>	<i>Remedied.</i>
Want of cleanliness	3	3
Want of ventilation	—	—
Overcrowding	—	—
Want of drainage of floors.....	—	—
Other nuisances	—	—
Sanitary accommodation insufficient	4	4
„ unsuitable or defective ...	8	8
„ not separate for sexes	1	1
Offences under Factory and Workshop Act :—		
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouse	—	—
Breach of special sanitary requirements for bake- houses	—	—
Other offences	—	—
Total.....	16	16

4.—REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

<i>Workshops on the Register (s. 131 at the end of the year).</i>	<i>Number.</i>
Workshops	637
Bakehouses (Including 10 underground)	34
Workshops (domestic)	—
Total number of workshops on register.....	671

5.—OTHER MATTERS.

<i>Class (1).</i>	<i>Number. (2).</i>
Matters notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories :—	
Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and Workshop Act (s. 133)	—
Notified by H.M. Inspector.....	6
Reports (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspector	—
Underground bakehouses (s. 101) :—	
Certificates granted during the year	—
In use at the end of the year	10

Female Out-Workers.		Male Out-Workers.	
NATURE OF WORK.	NO.	NATURE OF WORK.	NO.
Hat Trimming	148	Planking	13
Shirt Making	16	Boot and Shoe Repairing	2
Tailoring	6	Tailoring	2
Silk Weaving	6	Silk Weaving.....	1
Children's Clothing	4		
Blouse Making	1		
	181		18

Bakehouses.

There were 490 visits paid to bakehouses during the year. The premises were found in a good condition as to cleanliness and sanitation, in only two cases was it found necessary to speak to the occupiers as to lime-washing, and this was done without any further action being taken.

There are 10 underground bakehouses in the Borough, which are kept in good condition.

Twelve restaurants in the Borough have been visited during the year on several occasions, and found to be clean and satisfactory.

Offensive Trades.

There are 24 tripe boiling establishments in the Borough, which have been regularly visited. 1091 visits in all having been made during the year. The places generally have been found to be well conducted, and have not given rise to any complaints. In one instance a new tripe boiling establishment has been erected to replace an old one which did not conform to the requirements of the department.

Tripe boilers	24
Oil refiners	2
Tallow melters	1
Tanners	1
Leather dressers	3
Soap makers.....	1
Bird-lime makers.....	3

Common Lodging Houses.

There are 15 registered common lodging houses in the Borough, to which 976 visits have been paid, exclusive of special visits, paid in connection with smallpox. 102 visits were made during the night time, between the hours of 11-30 p.m. and 1-30 a.m. Generally a good standard of cleanliness has been maintained. An application to have the house, 51, Ardern Square, Higher Hillgate, registered for a Women's Workers' Home was granted by the Committee.

One application for the registration of an old tavern as a common lodging house was refused on account of the premises not being either suitable or adaptable for such a purpose.

REGISTERED COMMON LODGING-HOUSES.

No.	Address.	Registered No. of Lodgers.	No. of Rooms	Average cubic capacity per person.
1	Adlington Square (Kershaw)	61	5	408
2	15, Watson Square (Fitzpatrick) . . .	18	7	470
3	Bamford Street (Spilsbury)	17	5	439
4	Union Street (Marland)	115	6	406
5	Higher Hillgate (Gough)	64	13	410
6	Canal Street (Molyneux)	85	5	411
7	Ridgway Lane (Young)	55	5	406
8	13, 15, 17, & 19, Canal St. (Barratt) .	41	10	420
9	19, Garnett Street (Sullivan)	12	3	396
10	3, Adlington Square (O’Gara)	8	3	450
11	24, Chestergate (Ronan)	14	5	400
12	Adlington Square (Kershaw)	22	7	462
13	Gt. Egerton Street (Lomas & Kirby)	85	3	436
14	26, Lord Street (Orr)	10	3	415
15	51, Higher Hillgate	15	5	420

Fairs and Wakes.—Travelling Shows, &c.

As these are mainly annual institutions, and as the caravans bring with them a large number of travelling showmen and others, every caravan used as a dwelling house was visited, in search of infectious disease, but on all occasions without any such illness being discovered.

Smoke Observations.

During the year 219 observations of smoke emission have been taken. Only in two cases was it found necessary to serve notice on the firms to take measures to abate the nuisance and prevent its recurrence. In both cases new boilers have been put in ; two boilers with a full set of new economizers at one mill and three boilers at the other mill. Several firms have put on the Auto-Stoker. Smoke observations were taken of railway engines in various places, viz. :—Adswold Sidings, Edgeley Station, Tiviot Dale Station, Georges’ Road Sidings, Sparth Lane Sidings, and Jubilee Sidings. 51 observations were made, but nothing calling for action was discovered. Eight special observations were taken on Saturday afternoons of smoke emitted from the shed at Edgeley Station, where a considerable amount of work is going on. By special request, four observations were taken of smoke emitted from the Waterworks chimney at Wilmslow, all of which showed no black smoke, and very little moderate.

The following is a list of the different apparatus used in the Borough :—

Hollingdrake's ...Hollow Bar.
 Needham'sPatent Fire Bar.
 Swindells'Air Bar.
 Cadie'sHollow Bar.
 GreenEconomizers.
 Proctor'sMechanical Stoker.
 SpiderDraught.
 Davidson'sSirocco Fan.
 McConnell'sAutomatic Air Regulator.
 The Auto Stoker.

The following is a list of the cases in which black smoke was emitted from chimneys belonging to factories, &c., the figures indicating the number of minutes of smoke emission in an observation of two hours. In Nos. 3 and 22 notice was served in each case on the firm concerned requiring them to abate the nuisance within 28 days; and work was at once carried out which effected considerable improvement :—

No.		Black.		Moderate.		None.	No.		Black.		Moderate.		None.
3	..	38	..	68	..	14	153	..	2	..	38	..	80
21	..	4	..	56	..	60	154	..	2	..	45	..	73
22	..	14	..	48	..	58	156	..	2	..	46	..	72
25	..	1	..	75	..	44	163	..	2	..	46	..	72
33	..	1	..	46	..	73	165	..	2	..	59	..	59
36	..	2	..	40	..	78	169	..	3	..	48	..	69
45	..	1	..	56	..	63	170	..	1	..	41	..	78
46	..	2	..	45	..	73	176	..	3	..	56	..	61
47	..	2	..	52	..	66	177	..	2	..	46	..	72
69	..	1	..	33	..	86	180	..	2	..	45	..	73
73	..	2	..	33	..	85	181	..	1	..	56	..	63
83	..	3	..	30	..	87	183	..	2	..	45	..	73
85	..	2	..	31	..	87	184	..	2	..	59	..	59
87	..	2	..	38	..	80	185	..	3	..	40	..	77
89	..	1	..	43	..	76	186	..	1	..	59	..	60
97	..	2	..	45	..	73	187	..	1	..	48	..	71
108	..	1	..	39	..	80	194	..	3	..	57	..	60
111	..	2	..	50	..	68	195	..	1	..	44	..	75
121	..	3	..	77	..	40	196	..	2	..	40	..	78
122	..	2	..	57	..	61	198	..	2	..	50	..	68
123	..	2	..	42	..	76	199	..	1	..	43	..	76
127	..	2	..	48	..	70	202	..	3	..	46	..	71
129	..	3	..	81	..	36	204	..	2	..	53	..	65
138	..	2	..	48	..	70	205	..	1	..	44	..	75
140	..	1	..	57	..	62	206	..	2	..	52	..	66
144	..	2	..	39	..	79	208	..	2	..	45	..	73
150	..	2	..	38	..	80	209	..	1	..	46	..	73
151	..	2	..	48	..	70	217	..	3	..	57	..	60

Sale of Food and Drugs Acts.

Samples of food and drugs have been taken systematically during the year under the above Acts by Inspector Butler, assisted, when required, by Inspector Ashton. Altogether 303 samples have been submitted for analysis. Of these 23, or 7.6 per cent., have been found to be adulterated.

Four samples only were collected during the year without the formalities prescribed by the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts. Two of these consisting of butter were found to be adulterated.

Experience goes to show that considerable skill and ingenuity is continually being exercised by people who trade in adulterated foods, and it is desirable that officers who are entrusted with the duty of safeguarding the food supply, and who are consequently brought daily into contact with these people, should be allowed to use any legitimate means of checking them, and even then it is only by tactful persistence that one can hope to bring these unscrupulous traders to justice. I may say that this opinion is now held by the Board of Agriculture, and it is to be hoped that the Health Committee will approve of the more frequent collection of unofficial samples.

The following table compares these figures with previous years :—

<i>Year.</i>	<i>Total number of samples analysed.</i>	<i>Number found adulterated.</i>	<i>Percentage of adulterated samples.</i>
1901	156	44	28.2
1902	308	31	10.06
1903	312	39	12.5
1904	302	51	16.9
1905	305	18	5.9
1906	304	22	7.24
1907	304	13	4.27
1908	303	23	7.6

Of these samples 161 consisted of milk samples and 17, or 10.56 per cent., were reported by the analyst to be adulterated as follows:—

Added water	10
Abstracted fat	5
Added water and abstracted fat.....	2

The following table compares these figures with previous years :—

<i>Year.</i>	<i>Number of samples taken.</i>	<i>Number found adulterated.</i>	<i>Percentage adulteration.</i>
1900	27	5	18.52
1901	70	5	7.14
1902	91	16	17.58
1903	100	9	9.0
1904	120	20	16.66
1905	129	13	10.08
1906	134	10	7.46
1907	135	9	6.67
1908	161	17	10.56

On the whole the result may be regarded as satisfactory. The very low number of three adulterated samples for the first three quarters of the year was unfortunately increased to 17 during the December quarter.

This regrettable fact that 14 samples out of 55, or 25.4 per cent., of those taken during the last quarter of the year, confirms one's common experience that when milk is scarce and consequently dearer it is more profitable to adulterate it, and hence the addition of water—in 12 cases out of the 14 mentioned here—is carried on to a much greater extent than when milk is plentiful.

It is always argued for the defence in these cases of adulteration that the "poorness" of the milk is due to feeding influences; this is within certain limitations undoubtedly true, and, therefore, self-condemnatory, inasmuch as the production of good milk is for this very reason within the control of the farmers themselves, who always take the greatest possible care to thoroughly till the land and sow only the best seed in order to obtain the best possible results, and yet are content to leave the production of good milk entirely to chance at a time when the natural feeding is of poor quality.

The standards of pure milk are very low, too low to protect honest trading, and a man who deliberately adulterates such a food commits a gross fraud on each of the customers he supplies.

It is gratifying from an administrative point of view to be able to record the fact that the Justices are now taking a more serious view of this kind of offence, for not only has a conviction followed in every case in which I have recommended proceedings to be taken, but the penalties imposed have been heavier than formerly, and it is to be hoped that this will eventually have the effect of improving the quality of the various food stuffs supplied in this district.

In several cases where the adulteration was of a less serious nature, the persons concerned were given an opportunity of explaining the cause, and when the explanation was regarded as satisfactory no further action was taken, excepting, of course, keeping the case under observation.

In seven instances on the intervention of the department milk sellers have inscribed their names and addresses on their vehicles in compliance with the Act.

Subjoined will be found the quarterly reports of the Public Analyst, and the action taken in regard to adulteration.

<i>Articles submitted for analysis.</i>	<i>Result of analysis ; showing whether the sample was genuine or adulterated, and, if adulterated, what were the nature and extent of the adulteration.</i>	<i>Observations.</i>
15 Milk	All genuine	All the samples of milk were free from preservatives.
13 Butter	11 genuine, 2 adulterated, viz. :— No. 35, N.O., 2.19 per cent. excess water No. 37, N.O., 100 per cent. margarine	3 samples of butter were taken informally. Two of these, No. 35, N.O., and No. 37, N.O., were adulterated as already stated.
4 Lard 6 Pepper 4 Cheese 4 Coffee	} All genuine.	
4 Malt Vinegar	2 genuine, 1 doubtful, 1 adulterated, viz. :—75 per cent. of dilute acetic acid other than that derived from malt or a mixture of malt and unmalted grain.	NOTE.—No prosecutions were under- taken during the quarter.

Total number of samples analysed during the quarter, 50.

Total number of samples adulterated, 3.

SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1875.—Report of the Public Analyst appointed for the Borough of Stockport upon the articles analysed by him under the above Act, during the quarter ending 30th June, 1908.

<i>Articles submitted for analysis.</i>	<i>Result of analysis ; showing whether the sample was genuine or adulterated, and, if adulterated, what were the nature and extent of the adulteration.</i>	<i>Observations.</i>
47 Milk	45 genuine. 2 adulterated, viz. :— No. 106, 4.7 per cent. of fat removed No. 144, 8.3 per cent. of fat removed	Milk prosecution : No. 106, no prosecution. No. 144, 10/6 and costs ; full penalty, 43/6.
15 Butter 8 Lard 6 Pepper 8 Malt Vinegar 8 Coffee 8 Cheese	All genuine.	No samples were taken unofficially during the quarter.

Total number of samples analysed during the quarter, 100.
Total number of samples adulterated, 2.

<i>Articles submitted for analysis.</i>	<i>Result of analysis ; showing whether the sample was genuine or adulterated, and, if adulterated, what were the nature and extent of the adulteration.</i>	<i>Observations.</i>
44 Milk	42 genuine, 1 doubtful, 1 adulterated, viz. :— No. 173, 5 per cent. of fat removed.	Milk adulteration : No prosecution. One sample, Milk No. 168, was taken informally.
8 Butter	} All genuine.	Quinine wine adulteration : No prosecution.
8 Margarine		
4 Arrowroot.....		
4 Whisky		
4 Quinine Wine	3 genuine, 1 adulterated, viz. :— No. 226, deficient 2.1 grains quinine hydrochloride per pint.	
4 Demerara Sugar .	3 genuine, 1 adulterated, viz. :— No. 203 consisted entirely of white sugar artificially dyed.	Demerara sugar adulteration : 5/- and costs ; full penalty, £1 5s. 6d.

Total number of samples analysed during the quarter, 76.
Total number of samples adulterated, 3.

Articles submitted for analysis.	Result of analysis ; showing whether the sample was genuine or adulterated, and, if adulterated, what were the nature and extent of the adulteration.			Observations.
55 Milk	41 genuine, 14 adulterated, viz. :—	No.	Percentage of Water added. the fat removed.	Milk prosecutions : Full penalty. £ s. d.
		230	10.6	230, £5 and costs..... 7 7 0
		234	4.7	234, Withdrawn on payment of costs 0 16 0
		235	2.8	235, Do. 0 16 0
		245	6.0	245, £3 and costs..... 5 9 0
		250	12.9	250, £3 and costs..... 5 5 0
6 Butter	All genuine.	281	—	281, No proceedings taken. —
4 Bread and Butter		282	3.3	282, £5 and costs (added water), fat abstracted withdrawn 7 9 0
4 Camphorated Oil .		285	3.0	285, Withdrawn on payment of costs 0 14 0
2 Olive Oil		293	4.2	293, £5 and costs..... 7 2 6
		296	10.6	296, £5 and costs (added water) 7 8 6
		297	6.2	Costs (fat abstracted).. 0 4 6
		298	—	297, Costs 0 15 0
		300	9.2	298, £2 and costs..... 2 18 6
		301	9.76	300, £5 and costs..... 6 19 6
				301, £5 and costs..... 7 9 6
6 Jam	5 genuine, 1 adulterated with 1.99 grains of Salicylic Acid per lb.			Total .....£60 14 0
				Jam adulteration : No prosecution.

Dairies and Cowsheds.

To the 53 farmsteads within the Borough some 539 visits have been recorded.

In nine cases minor alterations of the nature of repaving shippon floors, repairs to drains, conversion of privy middens, etc., have been carried out, and in two cases new dairies constructed on lines suggested by this Department.

Your Committee also approved of plans of a new farmstead, subject to several alterations suggested by your Medical Officer of Health, and application will be made in due course for the registration of same.

It was found that in two cases milk boys had been in contact with persons suffering from scarlet fever, and in each case steps were immediately taken to thoroughly sterilize the whole of the milk vessels in the dairy, disinfect the boys' clothing, and keep them from work for the quarantine period, and one is happy to say there were no further developments.

In nine cases animals were found in cowsheds within the Borough suffering from tuberculosis, and by arrangement with the farmers concerned, they were slaughtered and destroyed.

To the 130 milk shops within the district 605 visits have been made, and one is pleased to report that a steady improvement in the standard of cleanliness of these places has been well maintained. At the same time, compulsory yearly licensing of cowsheds and milk shops would have the effect of keeping them up to a higher standard of sanitary efficiency.

In 5 instances privy middens of an objectionable type in connection with milk shops have been converted to water closets.

Ice Cream Vendors.

Your Inspector has made 183 visits to these places during the year. In seven cases it was found necessary to have the places cleansed, and in three instances to have the owners' name inscribed on the cart used in connection with the business.

Although the standard of cleanliness in these places leaves much to be desired, when one remembers the class of people to be dealt with, it is easy to see that the progress must be slow. However, there is a slight improvement, and one hopes for better results as the sanitary education of these people improve.

Private Slaughter Houses.

To the 47 slaughter-houses in the Borough 2152 visits have been made at irregular intervals.

In four instances the premises have been re-drained, and new offal tins provided in five cases.

Advantage is always taken of a change of occupation to have repairs carried out, and by this means old and unsuitable premises are often improved and made more suitable for slaughtering purposes.

Your Committee sanctioned the building of one new slaughter-house during the year, and application will be made in due course for a licence for the occupation of the same, which by arrangement will be granted subject to the old one being given up.

The removal of offal still continues a source of trouble at these places, and one is inclined to the conclusion that this work could with advantage be undertaken by the Cleansing Department free of cost.

The various butchers', fishmongers', and fruiterers' shops, together with the Market Place, have been kept under observation during the year, and although considerable quantities of various foodstuffs (shown in the adjoining list) were condemned and destroyed, it was not found necessary to take legal proceedings in a single case.

25 boxes	Haddock.	
5	„	Kippers.
3	„	Herrings.
1	„	Bream.
62	„	Strawberries.
13	„	Raspberries.
5	„	Tomatoes.
3	„	Damsons.
4	„	Oranges.
2		Hampers, Cauliflowers.
58		Couples, Rabbits.
140		Pigs' Feet.
13		Plucks.
180		lbs. Meat.
368		lbs. Bacon, Ham, and Pork.
6	Fore Quarters, Beef	} Tuberculosis.
2	Hind Quarters, „	
13	Carcases, Beef	
6	Carcases, Pigs	
1	Side, Beef	} Fevered.
4	Carcases of Pigs	

57 Livers, Lungs, &c.—Localized Tuberculosis or Distomatum Hepaticum.

Medical Inspection of School Children.

The medical inspection of school children has ceased to be voluntary, and Section 13 of the Education (Administrative Provisions) Act, 1907, made it statutory for Local Authorities to provide "for the medical inspection of school children immediately before, or at the time of, or as soon as possible after, their admission to a public elementary school, and on such other occasions as the Board of Education may direct, and the power to make such arrangements as may be sanctioned by the Board of Education for attending to the health and physical condition of the children educated in public elementary schools;" and under this Section the Board made certain recommendations as to the character and degree of medical inspection, and as to the desirability of organisation being carried out "in intimate conjunction with the Public Health Authorities and under direct supervision of the Medical Officer of Health. The advantages of such unification of the public health services have already been recognised by the Inter-Departmental Committee on Medical Inspection and Feeding of School Children, and also by the Local Government Board, who specifically require every Medical Officer of Health to report officially upon matters relating to the sanitary condition of all schools, including the action taken in relation to the health of the scholars and for preventing the spread of infectious disease."

The Medical Officer of Health was recognised as School Medical Officer for the year beginning 1st August, 1908. An Assistant Medical Officer was appointed in September to devote his whole time to carrying out the work of medical inspection under the supervision of the Medical Officer of Health. During the latter part of the year, whilst the scheme was undergoing organisation, a general inspection was made of all the schools in order to obtain an outline of the ground to be covered and to discuss matters with the teachers and secure their co-operation. In the process of this preliminary inspection several children presenting special defects, to which the attention of the Medical Officer was called by the teachers, were examined and advised to obtain treatment. The system adopted is based, with certain modifications, on the suggestions submitted by the Board of Education. The scheme provides that each child will be medically examined four times during its school life, namely, on entering the school, on leaving school, and twice in the interim. The method of recording results of examinations is by means of cards, one of which is provided for each child, and every card is kept in a cabinet placed at the school, and constitutes the medical history of the child throughout its school life. The card, which has been designed for this purpose, is herewith shown, different coloured cards being used for boys and girls. At the end of the year a School Nurse was appointed, and arrangements were made for the routine medical inspection to commence at the beginning of 1909. The scheme for this routine arrangement is as follows:— During the first year only beginners and leavers, and any others obviously ill or defective, will be examined at each school, as with 30 schools and 18,000 children any other arrangement would scarcely be possible. The examinations will be conducted in the school premises and during school hours. When a school is about to be visited due notice, along with the necessary cards, etc., will be sent to the head teacher. Printed notices will then be sent out in batches from the school to the parents, inviting

them to be present at the examination of their children. By this means much useful information can be obtained by the Medical Officer, and information imparted to the parents which will have more practical value than sending printed notices of defects by the children themselves. Any defects noticed or revealed at the examination will be recorded on the children's cards, and printed notices will in all such cases be sent out at the same time to the parents, calling attention to the nature of their child's defect, and urging them to secure immediate medical treatment for the same. As far as possible the worst cases will be visited by the School Nurse in order to follow up the advice already given to the parents. In all cases where children are excluded from school for such conditions as ringworm, discharging ears, and verminous heads or bodies, the parents will be notified that their children cannot be re-admitted to school unless certified by a doctor as fit to do so; and that if not actually under medical treatment at home, they must appear at the Town Hall from time to time in order to be seen again by the School Medical Officer. The co-operation of the School Attendance Officers will help very materially in such cases.

In December a conference was held with the head teachers, when the scheme of medical inspection was laid before them, and they were unanimous in expressing their willingness to help in every way possible to facilitate the working of the scheme.

As a special report of the work of medical inspection during the school year will be issued, only the organisation for the carrying out of Section 13 of the Education (Administrative Provisions) Act, 1907, has here been given.

COUNTY BOROUGH OF STOCKPORT																								SCHEDULE OF MEDICAL INSPECTION																																																																																																																																															
Name												School												Previous Illnesses												Mea.												Wh. C.												S.F.												Diph.												O.D.																																																																																			
Address																								Date of Birth																								Special Family History																																																																																																																							
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																								To be filled in by Teacher																								2. Standard and Reg. of Atten.																																																																																																																							
																																																3. Age of Child																																																																																																																							
																																																4. Clothing and Footgear																																																																																																																							
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																								17. Heart & Circulation																																																																																																																																															
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																								20. Tuberculosis																																																																																																																																															
																								21. Rickets																																																																																																																																															
																								22. Deformities, Spinal Disease, etc.																																																																																																																																															
																								23. Infectious or Con- tagious Disease																																																																																																																																															
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Schools and Infectious Disease.

During the year, on account of the prevalence of measles in the town, 11 schools have been closed to prevent the spread of this disease, the details in connection with the closure being herewith appended.

<i>School.</i>	<i>Disease.</i>	<i>Percentage of children present.</i>	<i>CLOSED</i>		<i>Disin- fected.</i>
			<i>From.</i>	<i>To.</i>	
St. Matthew's ...	Measles	107 actual cases.	4th June	26th June	10th June
Hollywood Park C.	„	70%	5th „	26th „	9th „
St. George's C.E. (Infants' Dept.)	„	64%	19th „	10th July	23rd „
Christ Church ...	„	67%	14th July	31st „	15th July
Houldsworth's (Infants' Dept.)	„	62%	17th „	31st „	20th „
Hanover C. (Infants' Dept.)	„	64%	12th Oct.	30th Oct.	Cleaned by caretaker.
St. Mary's R.C. (Infants' Dept.)	„	62%	16th „	6th Nov.	„
All Saints' (do.)	„	64%	21st „	13th „	„
Parish Church (St. Mary's) (do.) ..	„	61%	2nd Nov.	20th „	3rd Nov.
St. Mary's C.E. (Infants' Dept.)	„	58%	9th Dec.	24th Dec.	Cleaned by caretaker.
St. Paul's (do.) ..	„	51%	11th „	24th „	18th Dec.

Between November the 4th and December the 18th, 15 cases of scarlet fever occurred at Brentnall Street School. In connection with this outbreak it was discovered that one of the scholars (H.N.), who had not attended school since November the 27th, had been kept at home on account of a bad throat, which had commenced some time before that date. His brother, who slept in the same bed, had attended school until December the 14th, when he commenced to be ill. It was found on examination that he was suffering from scarlet fever as well as his brother with whom he had slept, and it was probable that during several days before H. N. ceased to attend school he had infected the scholars who were attacked with the disease.

Another small outbreak of scarlet fever occurred at a girls' private school. I was called to see a girl (P. C.) in consultation with the doctor on October 22nd, and found that she was suffering from a mild type of scarlet fever, and that she had been ill for a fortnight; two other children in the house having attended the school for the whole time. Five other cases followed on October the 25th, 27th, 29th, 30th, and November the 15th respectively. The spread of the disease in this manner was no doubt due to the infection by P. C. before it was discovered she was suffering from the disease. On several occasions the school was visited, but as no other cases occurred it was found unnecessary to close it.

SCHOOL CHILDREN SUFFERING FROM INFECTIOUS DISEASE DURING
PAST NINE YEARS.

YEAR 1908.

<i>Year.</i>	<i>Notifiable or " Dangerous "</i> <i>Infectious Diseases.</i>				<i>Non-Notifiable but Dangerous.</i>		
	<i>Small-pox</i>	<i>Scarlet Fever.</i>	<i>Diphtheria</i>	<i>Totals.</i>	<i>Measles.</i>	<i>Whooping Cough.</i>	<i>Totals.</i>
1900	—	146	9	155	290	59	349
1901	—	390	9	399	1418	48	1466
1902	—	308	7	315	413	320	733
1903	1	360	6	367	98	1	99
1904	19	375	16	410	476	14	490
1905	1	110	16	127	200	250	450
1906	—	95	21	116	880	225	1105
1907	—	236	24	260	920	689	1609
1908	—	359	23	382	2881	537	3418
<i>Totals</i>	21	2379	131	2531	7576	2143	9719

UNDERFEEDING OF SCHOOL CHILDREN.

I am indebted to the Secretary of Education for the following analysis which has been made from reports furnished by the School Attendance Officers, in reference to children in attendance at a Public Elementary School, and who, in the opinion of the Head Teacher, are underfed, or by reason of lack of food, are unable to profit by the education offered.

A.—CASES ABOVE POVERTY SCALE :

	Underfed.		Fairly well fed.		Well fed.		A. Underfed Fairly well fed Well fed	Parents. — 188 173	Children. — 491 440
	Parents.	Children.	Parents.	Children.	Parents.	Children.			
B.—CASES BELOW POVERTY SCALE :							B.		
(1) Permanent Cases :							(1)		
(a) Parents infirm ..	3	9	7	20	—	—	Underfed	22	49
(b) Widows	7	13	13	34	2	6	Fairly well fed	73	195
(c) Irregular employment— Hawkers, out of work, etc.	6	13	32	79	1	4	Well fed	5	13
(d) Deserted by parent	1	3	8	22	1	2			
(e) Small wage	—	—	—	—	—	—			
(f) Union relief ...	4	6	10	31	1	1			
(g) In prison	1	3	3	9	—	—			
(2) Temporary Cases :							(2) :		
(a) Sickness	—	—	5	13	—	—	Underfed	13	34
(b) Unemployed or on short time ..	9	22	55	169	10	28	Fairly well fed	66	205
(c) Union relief	4	12	8	23	1	3	Well fed	11	31
Totals	35	83	141	400	16	44	Totals ..	553	1458

Information was refused in 26 cases.

Isolation Hospitals.

DIALSTONE LANE HOSPITAL.—Owing to the abnormal prevalence of the notifiable infectious diseases, and more especially of scarlet fever, during the year, the available accommodation at this hospital has been insufficient to cope with these diseases, and many cases have been perforce isolated in their own homes as well as possible, but one is bound to admit unsatisfactorily.

574 cases of scarlet fever were notified during the year, and of these only 342 were able to be admitted. This amounts to only 60 per cent. of all the cases of this disease, and even with this number of admissions the hospital was frequently overcrowded, less than one-half the cubic space recommended by the Local Government Board being available for each patient. Though the amount of 2000 feet per patient recommended by the Board is a liberal allowance, yet when less than 1000 per patient is available owing to the number of cases in a ward, infectious complications are more liable to arise, and this necessitates frequently a more prolonged stay in hospital than would be necessary under the more satisfactory conditions of air space.

The two main pavilions have been used exclusively for scarlet fever during the year.

The Observation Block has not served during the year the purpose for which it was originally intended, but has been used for the reception of certain cases of typhoid fever and diphtheria, in which removal from their homes was an urgent necessity. While it is agreed that it is important to isolate and to keep under observation in separate rooms doubtful cases of infectious disease, it must be admitted that it is more important to isolate cases in which no doubt whatever exists. The value of the observation block consists mainly in its arrangement for the complete isolation of individual cases, and it is very desirable that more isolation of this kind should be provided in a Fever Hospital, either in such a form as the present building or as a pavilion consisting entirely of cubicles.

The advantages of such a pavilion are:—

Each cubicle is a complete and separate ward.

Different diseases may be placed safely in the same building.

Mild cases and convalescents are not exposed to re-infection from severe and septic cases.

Disinfection after the removal of a patient does not disturb other patients.

There is no possibility of interchange of infected articles.

While each patient is completely isolated they can see one another, and can be observed from the Nurses' duty room.

A number of isolation rooms on this principle is invaluable in an Isolation Hospital, and renders the administration of the hospital readily adaptable to any epidemic. As under such circumstances it is not necessary to keep a whole ward open for two or three cases of a disease, which does not happen at the time to be prevalent or epidemic in character.

Only 14 cases of typhoid fever could be taken into the hospital during the year. All of these cases recovered. Three cases of diphtheria were admitted, and unfortunately three deaths occurred, as they were virulent cases in extremis on admission.

I have during the year frequently pointed out to the Health Committee the failure of the hospital to deal adequately with the infectious diseases in the Borough, and I am very glad to report that a Sub-Committee was formed at the end of the year to consider and deal with this urgent question.

WHITEHILL HOSPITAL.—Only one case of smallpox was admitted to the hospital during the year. Both the hospital and grounds have been kept in good order by the caretakers.

I must here record my appreciation of the excellent work of the matron and the staff under her direction. She has consistently used every effort for the smooth working and good management of the hospital, and it is satisfactory to record that nothing but high appreciation of the hospital has been received during the year.

PAYMENTS BY PATIENTS.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
1888	108	4	6	1895.....	176	15	4	1902.....	272	18	0
1889	591	10	9	1896.....	191	8	11	1903.....	915	5	5
1890	122	14	6	1897.....	319	11	3	1904.....	731	9	9
1891	25	7	0	1898.....	264	14	1	1905.....	261	0	6
1892	150	18	6	1899.....	362	15	0	1906.....	32	6	0
1893	122	12	0	1900.....	1474	14	6	1907.....	268	2	0
1894	150	9	10	1901.....	629	0	2	1908.....	220	12	0

Total in 21 years—£7,392 10s. 0d.

NETT COST OF MAINTENANCE.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
1888	715	0	2	1895.....	1137	5	11	1902.....	2598	0	4
1889	864	19	0	1896.....	1544	11	7	1903.....	3801	6	2
1890	606	16	2	1897.....	1592	9	6	1904.....	2476	19	10½
1891	928	6	2	1898.....	1316	7	8	1905.....	2524	13	10
1892	509	19	8	1899.....	924	5	2	1906.....	2786	3	10½
1893	1392	8	11	1900.....	389	5	5	1907.....	3060	1	4
1894	1313	12	0	1901.....	3113	14	11	1908.....	2790	2	5½

CASES TREATED FROM 1888 TO 1908 INCLUSIVE, IN THE TWO HOSPITALS.

	1888	1889	1890	1891	1892	1893	1894	1895	1896	1897	1898	1899	1900	1901	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906	1907	1908
Smallpox	98	0	1	0	6	22	26	2	1	0	0	0	6	1	57	89	159	1	0	1	1
Scarlet Fever....	35	36	91	32	26	127	151	112	265	279	115	46	216	403	318	371	271	120	81	265	386
Typhus	3	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Enteric	12	14	22	15	16	85	21	40	38	47	58	27	64	38	18	1	14	23	23	18	18
Diphtheria	0	0	2	1	2	9	2	0	1	0	0	2	1	1	2	2	1	2	0	5	3
Other Diseases ..	1	16	4	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	6	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	1
Totals	149	66	120	48	51	244	200	154	306	326	173	76	293	444	395	464	445	147	105	289	409

The following table gives the number of cases dealt with by the Hospitals during the past year.

<i>Name of Disease.</i>	<i>In hospital 1st Jan., 1908.</i>	<i>Admitted.</i>	<i>Recovered.</i>	<i>Died.</i>	<i>In hospital, 31st Dec., 1908.</i>
Smallpox	—	1	1	—	—
Scarlet Fever ..	43	*343	335	8	58
Typhoid Fever .	4	14	14	—	1
Diphtheria.	—	x3	—	†3	—
Puerperal Fever	—	†1	1	—	—
Total	47	362	351	11	59

* Eight of these cases are Guardians' patients and one admitted from Disley.

x *In Extremis* on admission.

† Guardians' patient from Heaton Mersey.

‡ One of these cases died of Broncho Pneumonia.

Fourteen convalescent cases of Scarlet Fever were removed from Dialstone Lane to Whitehill Hospital.

Expenditure on Hospital Account

From January 1st to December 31st, 1908.

DIALSTONE LANE HOSPITAL.

	£	s.	d.
Salaries and wages	865	8	10
Food, stimulants and drugs	886	14	8
Coal, coke, gas, and water.	283	10	5
Rates and tithe rent charge.	109	0	1
Repairs and alterations.	45	7	11
Dress materials and drapery.	83	17	1
Telephone rent and maintenance.	8	0	0
Stabling and keep of horses	51	7	0
Harness repairs and shoeing.	12	15	2
Stationery, printing, and advertising.	22	14	4
Cleaning materials.	27	15	2
Ironmongery and kitchen utensils.	12	9	4
Services of extra nurses.	36	4	6
Professional services of Locum Tenens.	28	7	0
Lurry, washing machine.	80	0	0

	£	s.	d.
Horse	63	0	0
Petty cash	9	14	4½
Capital charges.....	74	14	3
Gratuities to nurses and Christmas presents to patients.....	13	9	6
Miscellaneous	38	19	5
	£2753	9	0½
Less—Amounts received for treatment of :			
Outside patients	£220	12	0
Other receipts	25	10	6
	246	2	6
	£2507	6	6½

WHITEHILL.

	£	s.	d.
Wages	54	17	0
Food and stimulants	6	6	5
Coal, coke, gas, and water.....	54	11	7
Rates and taxes	32	2	3
Telephone subscription and charges.....	10	13	6
Services of nurse	8	8	0
Repairs and painting	53	2	7
Cleaning materials.....	0	17	0
Ironmongery	2	6	6
Petty cash	0	13	1
Capital charges	58	18	0
	£282	15	11
Total expenditure on hosiptal account for past year.....	£2790	2	5½

Bacteriological Examinations.

During the year 82 specimens have been forwarded to Professor Delépine for examination, 29 from suspected typhoid fever cases, 25 from doubtful diphtheria cases, and 28 from suspected cases of phthisis. The results obtained on such bacteriological examination are given in the accompanying table :—

	Positive.	Negative.	Doubtful.
Typhoid	14	..	13
Diphtheria.....	7	..	18
Phthisis	19	..	9
	—	—	—
Totals ...	40	40	2
	—	—	—

Inspection of Water Closets, &c.

During the past year there have been 971 new water-closets erected in the Borough, viz., 500 in connection with new buildings, 463 in connection with privy midden conversions, and 8 in connection with factory and workshops. There are in the Borough at present, approximately, 12,700 water-closets, and about 1000 waste water-closets, together with a small number of latrines of various types. There have been about 10,000 visits paid by Inspector Ashton to these conveniences during the year. In cases where it has been suspected or ascertained that improper usage of water-closets was taking place, precautionary notices have been served upon the occupiers warning them about the keeping of the closets and approaches thereto in a cleanly state, and also cautioning them against misuse of the closets, visits having been paid in these cases every day, this constant visitation having been generally attended to with good results. Special attention is always given to water-closets which have been newly erected in lieu of privy middens, and constant re-visits are paid to be assured that tenants know how to use them properly.

In the following table is set forth a summary of defects and repairs which have been carried out in connection with water-closets in the Borough. Having regard to the number of these and the percentage of defects to the total number of water-closets, there is evidence to show that more care is being taken, and the people are becoming more accustomed to the use of these sanitary appliances. The fact that water-closets are a greater expense and source of complaint by property-owners is in no sense whatever a justification for such insanitary means of refuse disposal as the privy midden.

NATURE & DEFECTS DISCOVERED IN WATER-CLOSETS & FITTINGS DURING 1908.

<i>Districts.</i>	No. 1	No. 2	No. 3	No. 4	<i>Totals</i> 1908.
Balltaps	231	270	245	236	982
Cistern Valves	89	55	89	89	322
W.C.s Cleansed	58	99	76	70	303
Water Pipes	54	75	33	51	213
Rubber Cones	26	53	37	32	148
W.C. Basins Fixed	6	26	18	20	70
Drains Relaid	16	37	26	26	105
Cisterns	—	2	—	—	2
Waste Water Closets.....	6	3	19	18	46
W.C.s Reseated.....	2	10	—	—	12

Shop Hours Act.

During the year 114 observations have been taken at night by Inspector Ashton of hairdressers' shops where it was suspected that the enactments were being evaded, and several instances of minor infringements of the Act were discovered. A caution was in most instances sufficient to prevent further default. In one case legal proceedings were taken, and the defendant fined 2s. 6d. and costs.

Disinfectants, Limewash Brushes, &c.

Section 46 of the Public Health Act, 1875, requires the owner or occupier of any house any part of which is in a filthy or unwholesome condition to whitewash, cleanse, or purify the same. Facilities are granted to the poorest people for this purpose by the almost gratuitous loan of limewashing brushes by the Health Department; and as this constitutes the greatest expenditure in the operation of limewashing no reasonable excuse can be made for maintaining the filthy and unwholesome condition of many of the poorest dwellings.

When the Health Department was transferred from Throstle Grove House to the Town Hall it was impossible to provide for the distribution of disinfectants at the new offices, and I recommended that so long as the administration of these disinfectants was carried out by the Health Department the actual distribution of the same should be transferred to the Cleansing Department at the Fair Ground. This arrangement was commenced in March, 1908, and cards are handed to the occupiers of all houses in which infectious diseases occur and in other cases where desirable authorising disinfectant to be obtained.

During the year 2,733 limewash brushes have been loaned at the nominal charge of a penny per day. The amount received and expended in connection with this account is herewith shown. At the same time the loan of limewash brushes was similarly transferred to the Cleansing Department.

LIMEWASH BRUSHES.

<i>Year.</i>	<i>Income.</i>				<i>Expenditure.</i>		
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
1901-2	14	2	9	..	12	11	8
1902-3	14	2	6	..	16	16	0
1903-4	11	11	2	..	6	0	0
1904-5	11	5	1	..	15	12	0
1905-6	12	17	10	..	7	5	8
1906-7	13	4	6	..	8	6	6
1907-8	12	10	1	..	7	4	0
1908-9	11	7	9	..	5	1	9
	<hr/> £101 1 8 <hr/>				<hr/> £78 17 7 <hr/>		

Paving, Sewering, &c.

I am indebted to the Borough Surveyor for a statement giving the amount of paving, sewerage, etc., carried out by his Department during the year under review :—

1.—Length of back passages paved and sewered during 1908, 5 furlongs, 178 yards.

2.—Length of sewers (sewage and surface water) laid, 4 miles, 2 furlongs, 24 yards.

3.—No vertical shaft ventilators were closed.

4.—Number of surface sewer ventilators closed, 12.

5.—No old sewers were taken up and re-laid.

6.—Number of water-closets erected in connection with new buildings, 500.

7.—Number of cellar areas closed for purposes of street improvements, 9.

8.—No houses were demolished in connection with street improvements.

I am indebted to the Borough Treasurer for the following statement giving the expenditure of the Cleansing Department for the year ending December 31st, 1908 :—

Nett expenditure of Nightsoil and Day Scavenging Departments.....	£13941 15 3
General maintenance account of Nightsoil and Day Scavenging Departments (including capital charges (£369 1s. 1d.)	£14472 9 5
Less income	530 14 2
	£13941 15 3
General maintenance account of Warth Meadow, including capital charges (£150 0s. 0d.)	£289 15 11
Less income	178 1 5
	111 14 6
General maintenance account of Whitehill, including capital charges (£242 18s. 7d.)	245 0 2
Total of general maintenance account—Cleansing Department.....	£14298 9 11

Legal Proceedings during the Year, 1908.

<i>Offence.</i>	<i>Result.</i>	<i>Amount of Fines, &c.</i>
Selling adulterated milk	Convicted	£5 and costs and advocate's and analyst's fee or one month.
"	Withdrawn	
"	Convicted	£5 and costs and advocate's and analyst's fee.
"	"	Costs.
"	"	£5 and costs and advocate's and analyst's fee, or one month hard labour.
"	"	£5 and costs and advocate's and analyst's fee or one month.
"	"	£5 and costs and advocate's and analyst's fee.
"	"	£5 and costs and advocate's and analyst's fee.
"	"	£3 and costs and advocate's and analyst's fee.
"	"	£3 and costs and advocate's and analyst's fee.
"	"	£2 and costs and analyst's fee.
"	"	10/6 and costs and advocate's and analyst's fee or fourteen days.
"	"	Costs.
"	Withdrawn	Costs.
"	"	Costs.
"	"	Costs.
"	"	Costs.
Refusing to sell a reasonable quantity of milk	Convicted	£1 and costs and advocate's fee or one month.
Selling imitation Demerara sugar	"	5/- and costs and analyst's fee.
Contravention of Shop Hours Act, 1904	"	
(Barber's Shop)	"	2/6 and costs.
Improper keeping of fowls	"	Costs and order made to abate nuisance in fourteen days.

NOTE.—The bracketted cases refer to the same sample in each case.

Meteorological Observations.

The Meteorological Station, the instruments in which are the gift of Mr. T. Kay, J.P., of this town, is situated in the centre of the town, in the Town's Yard, off St. Petersgate. The instruments are as follows :—

1.—Stevenson's screen, containing (a) maximum thermometer, (b) minimum thermometer (for shade temperatures), (c) wet and dry bulb hydrometer (Mason's).

2.—Campbell's sunshine recorder.

3.—Five-inch rain gauge.

4.—Black and bright bulb thermometers (for "radiation" temperatures).

5.—Grass minimum thermometer.

6.—One-foot and four-feet earth thermometers.

7.—Robinson's anemometer.

8.—Standard mercurial barometer (Kew pattern).

The last-mentioned instrument is fixed in the office of the medical Officer of Health at a height of 261 feet above sea level.

Readings of these instruments are taken at 9 a.m. each day, and are subsequently corrected and recorded in a register kept for that purpose.

A tabulated statement of the readings for 1908 is given herewith.

Lines for future Action.

In his Annual Report the medical Officer of Health is requested by the Local Government Board to indicate directions for further consideration and action, and I beg to recommend that the following should receive the consideration of the Health Committee :—

1.—The establishment of some form or forms of refuse destructor, and the abolition of Corporation tips for the deposit of refuse.

2.—The establishment of a public mortuary within the Borough.

3.—The adoption of a system for the more rapid conversion of the 8,306 insanitary privies which still exist in the Borough.

4.—The consideration of some means for the isolation and education of poor people suffering from consumption.

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